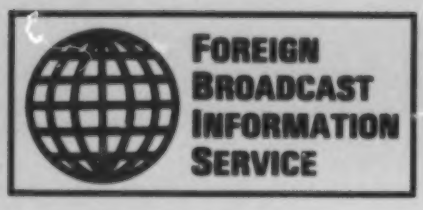

Daily Report

East Europe

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Alia Marks 5th Anniversary of Hoxha's Death

AU1204132090 Tirana ATA in English 0758 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Tirana, April 11 (ATA) Today, on April 11, the day of the 5th anniversary of the death of the great and unforgettable leader of the party and people, the leader of the revolution and architect of new Albania, Comrade Enver Hoxha, the entire people and party honoured with profound respect and gratitude his brilliant deed and unforgettable memory.

Thousands of working people of work and production centres institutions, veterans of war and labour, military men, members and relatives of the martyrs' families, youngsters and Pioneers of Enver came to the martyrs' graves of the nation today in the morning.

At 1000 there came to pay homage Comrade Ramiz Alia, first secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the People' s Assembly and Comrades Adil Carcani, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, the members of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee Manush Myftiu, Pali Miska, Prokop Murra, Rita Marko, the alternate members of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee Kico Mustaqi, Llambi Gegprifti and Pirro Kondi, the member of the party Central Committee and chairwoman of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Nexhmije Hoxha, the member of the party Central Committee Pilo Peristeri, members of the party Central Committee, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and of the Government, working people of the apparatus of the party Central Committee, representatives of central mass organisations, leading cadres of party and power organs of the district, etc.

Comrade Ramiz Alia and Comrade Adil Carcani laid near the grave of Comrade Enver Hoxha the wreath on behalf of the party Central Committee with the inscription "Glory to Comrade Enver Hoxha, great leader of the party and people." On behalf of the Presidium of the People's Assembly the wreath was laid by Comrades Rita Marko and Xhafer Spahiu and of the Council of Ministers by Comrades Manush Myftiu and Pali Miska. A wreath was laid also by Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha and children. Wreaths were laid also on behalf of the general council of the DFA [Democratic Front of Albania], the Ministry of People's Defence and the District Party Committee and Executive Committee of the District People's Council.

Comrade Ramiz Alia and the other party and state leaders kept silence and honoured with the fist up in front of the grave of the beloved comrade leader and teacher.

Then Comrade Ramiz Alia warmly greeted and met with working people of the capital, with communists, veterans, youngsters and Pioneers of Enver. [passage omitted]

New Book Published on Hoxha

AU1204185690 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] The second volume of the book entitled "Memories of Enver" has been published and is on sale. The book includes reminiscences by comrades, co-fighters, and close collaborators of Comrade Enver, party and state leaders, cadres, and people in various sectors of activity, who have known and have met the leader at various periods during the Antifascist National Liberation War and during the period of socialist construction.

Through these reminiscences, we become better acquainted with the traits of our unforgettable leader, his affection for and close links with the people, and his devotion and ideas for the comprehensive development and progress of our socialist homeland.

The book is published by the 8 November Publishing House.

Austria's Vranitzky on Bilateral Relations

AU1004115890 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 5 Apr 90 pp 3-4

[Shaban Murati article: "In True Friendship, We All Need Each Other—Meetings and Visits in Austria"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] One place where the dynamic reality of modern Austria is evident is the Vienna International Trade Fair, which opened on 21 March in the Fair and Congress Center, and where everything from sets of china to tanks is exhibited. Among those who came to take part were Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, Chancellor Franz Vranitzky, ministers, ambassadors, foreign delegations, businessmen, and journalists. A wind band of five musicians dressed in traditional costumes heralded the start of the ceremony from the gallery above the hall were those taking part were seated, thus gracing the business event with a touch of classical cultural tradition. After speeches by leading personalities, the public rose and visited the displays. Chancellor Franz Vranitzky had the courtesy and kindness to talk with us for a few minutes and to give an interview to ZERI I POPULLIT:

[ZERI I POPULLIT] Mr. Chancellor, readers of the main Albanian newspaper would be extremely interested in your views on relations between our two countries.

[VRANITZKY] Our relations with Albania are good and friendly. We consider these relations to be important. We appreciate your country's policy of maintaining its independence, and consider it an element of stability in the Balkans and Europe. Our political relations have been further developed, and several political and parliamentary delegations have visited your country. The positive development of bilateral relations is to the benefit of both our countries.

[ZERI I POPULLIT] We are visiting this great trade fair which that the extent and great potential of the Austrian economy. In the context of bilateral relations, what value might this trade fair have?

[VRANITZKY] The great potential you mentioned means that there is more scope for developing cooperation and economic relations between our two countries in a great variety of areas and fields. Of course, defining these is up to the relevant bodies.

[ZERI I POPULLIT] Austria and Albania are European countries with long-standing historical, cultural, and scientific ties. What meaning can these relations have in modern Europe?

[VRANITZKY] We very much appreciate Albania's attachment to Europe. Since we live on the same continent, traditional ties must be used to forge new links of friendship. There is now both a greater opportunity and a greater need than in the past to develop relations between states. An affirmation of Europe is a political necessity for the countries in this continent. The more Albania affirms its European identity, the more your country will profit from bilateral and multilateral cooperation in Europe.

[ZERI I POPULLIT] Mr. Chancellor, would you like to visit Albania?

[VRANITZKY] I would gladly come to your beautiful country. I would like on this occasion to greet the readers of your newspaper and the Albanian people.

Thanking Chancellor Franz Vranitzky for the honor he paid to us, we parted, happy at being able to notice the friendly regard in which leading personalities of this country hold Albania and the Albanian people. [passage omitted]

At the Ballhausplatz, seat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we were received by Dr. Erich Schmidt, political director of this ministry, who impressed us as a man familiar with the issues. "We have good relations with Albania," he said. "Albania has an independent position, and is nobody's satellite. We are honored with the privilege of friendship. We followed closely Mr. Ramiz Alia's speech at the ninth Albanian Workers Party Central Committee plenum. We followed it with interest because it shows how much attention you are devoting to the process of deepening democracy." Dr. Schmidt then spoke about various specific measures and decisions of our party, multi-candidate elections, competition for appointments, labor incentives, and the creation of the Ministry of Justice. "You are keeping up with European ideas," was how he summed up his opinion. The conversation then turned to Austria and its application to become an EEC member. Dr. Schmidt explained that Austria has developed a strong national identity and has remained loyal to the policy of neutrality. He said that the country's national identity and neutrality will not be affected or restricted either by the European security processes or by those of European economic integration. He then added that, in the European community of states, countries participate and are accepted as they are, and closed the conversation by mentioning the need to further strengthen friendly relations between our countries.

Austrian Nationalrat President Rudolf Poeder began our talk by saying that, as a football fan, he remembered some matches between the Austrian and Albanian national teams. Seeing that the results of these matches put me at a loss for words, he smiled and added that the Austrian parliamentarians who visited Albania were extremely impressed by their warm and friendly welcome. He added that it would be a good thing to develop the relations between the parliaments of our two countries because this would help to consolidate our relations of friendship. This view was reiterated by Dr. Ludwig Steiner, parliamentary foreign policy spokesman of the Austrian People's Party, who welcomed us in the lovely premises of the Academy of Political Sciences, of which he is president. He has long diplomatic experience and is in particular an authority on European issues. "Through its geopolitical position, Albania is an important element in the Balkans and Europe," he said. "Under the conditions of today's Europe, both bilateral and multilateral relations must be developed. We all need each other." We then talked about the right of peoples for independence and self-determination, and Dr. Steiner emphasized that the problem of minorities is an acute one for our times, and must be solved through dialogue and by sitting at a table for discussion. "Kosovo has the right to preserve its national and cultural identity. There is no sense in changing reality by force. Lack of autonomy conflicts with democratic processes in today's Europe." [passage omitted]

Defense Spokesman on SS-23 Missiles in Nation

AU1204154090 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 11 Apr 90 p 4

[Interview with Lieutenant General Radnyu Minchev, spokesman of the Ministry of National Defense and first deputy chief of the General Staff of the Bulgarian People's Army, by Senior Lieutenant Krasimir Uzunov, representing the NARODNA ARMIYA Editorial Board; place and date not given: "SS-23 Missiles: The Sensation Does Not Exist"]

[Text] [Uzunov] Comrade Lieutenant General, recently reports have appeared in the Western mass media on the existence of SS 23 missiles. Does this contravene the INF Treaty signed in 1987 between the USSR and the United States?

[Minchev] It is true that recently the foreign mass media have noisily raised the issue of the "Soviet" SS-23 (OTR-23) missiles in the GDR, Czechoslovakia, and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The Bulgarian People's Army [BPA] possesses only eight launching installations of the SS-23 type, and not 72, as certain Turkish newspapers allege. These missiles were purchased from the Soviet Union in 1986, but the agreement for their purchase was signed much earlier.

The OTR-23 missiles in the BPA's arsenal have a much shorter range than that of the missiles covered by the U.S.-Soviet treaty, namely less than 500 km. No nuclear warheads for these missiles have existed in Bulgaria, they do not exist now, nor is it foreseen that they will exist. The missiles have only a certain amount of spare parts and are armed with conventional explosives, that is, with conventional warheads. The presence of these missiles in the BPA does not contravene the clauses of the INF Treaty signed in December 1987 between the USSR and the United States. Both the launchers and the missiles themselves belong to our country, and were acquired prior to the conclusion of this treaty. Furthermore, the People's Republic of Bulgaria is not a party to the treaty.

[Uzunov] What danger made it necessary to deploy the missiles on Bulgarian soil, and is this danger now eliminated?

[Minchev] The delivery of any kind of weapon or military hardware to the BPA is always directly related to the potential military danger to the country and the correlation of the forces of the opposing states. The unfavorable (for Bulgaria) balance of forces on our southern flank dictated the deployment of the SS-23 missiles. It is no secret that greatly superior armed forces face us along the line of contact between NATO and Bulgaria. Stores of nuclear munitions under U.S. control are situated on the territories of the neighboring NATO countries, while U.S. aircraft carrying long-range nuclear weapons are based in Turkey. The entire territory of our country lies within the range of the nuclear forces of the U.S. Sixth Fleet. From the time of deployment of the OTR-23 missiles until the present, there has in fact been no change in the balance of forces, and now NATO's superiority over Bulgaria is considerable, while their superiority in nuclear weapons is absolute.

In this sense, the danger has not been eliminated, but now new factors are evident. Progress is being made in the talks on conventional armed forces. As a whole, the development of the pan-European process is producing positive results, and the role of the political approach in guaranteeing the national security of states is increasing. This provides grounds for us to talk of a trend toward a reduction of the direct military threat to our country in the future.

[Uzunov] What will be the fate of the SS-23 missiles in Bulgaria?

[Minchev] These missiles are no longer in production, and evidently the OTR-23 missiles in Bulgaria will be removed from our weapons arsenal. There are no plans to purchase and import other missiles of a similar class to replace them.

[Uzunov] In view of the military correlation of forces in the Balkans, do these missiles pose any threat to the security of the neighboring states?

[Minchev] This missiles present no special threat to our neighbors because the BPA has no nuclear warheads for them. The destructive power of missiles with conventional charges is similar to that of conventional munitions fired from other conventional systems in the artillery and air forces. Until they are finally removed from our fighting strength, they should be regarded as conventional artillery systems.

[Uzunov] Comrade Lieutenant General, should these missiles be included in any possible negotiations in the future?

[Minchev] Our country firmly supports the elimination of tactical nuclear weapons—both the warheads and the delivery systems. If such negotiations begin, the OTR-23 missiles will be included in the talks as potential carrier systems, if before that time they have not been removed from our arsenal of weapons and destroyed.

Mladenov's Decree on Central Election Commission

AU1304085390 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 11 Apr 90 p 2

[BTA report: "A Central Election Commission Is Appointed"]

[Text] On the basis of Article 27 of the Law on the Election of the Grand National Assembly, I issue the following decree:

I am appointing a Central Election Commission, in connection with the Grand National Assembly Elections, which shall be composed of the following members:

Chairman: Professor Zhivko Stalev, lawyer;

Deputy chairman: Zhivko Zhivkov, lawyer;

Secretary: Dimitur Popov, lawyer.

Members: Aleksandur Dzherov, lawyer; Aleksey Rafailov, public figure; Professor Stefan Stoychev, lawyer; Bozhidar Kolev, Supreme Court judge; Georgi Mutafchiev, public figure; Dimitur Boev, economist; Professor Dimitur Scpetliev, statistician; Emiliya Drumeva, lawyer; Zhivan Dimitrov, Supreme Court judge; Academician Ivan Todorov Borov; Ivan Voyvodov, lawyer; Krum Radonov, public figure; Lyuben Stefanov, public figure; Lidiya Mancheva, lawyer; Martin Gunev, lawyer; Iliya Krumov Rizov, lawyer; Vera Mutafchieva, writer; Snezhana Botusharova, lawyer; Solomon Rozanis, Supreme Court judge; and Assistant Professor Teodor Chipev, lawyer.

Signed: Petur Mladenov, president of the republic.

Mladenov Urges 'Strong Presidential Power'

PM1204145490 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 1 Apr 90 p 12

[Report on interview with President Petur Mladenov by Ricardo Estarriol; place and date not given]

[Text] "Do you see, Elena, how important the principle of the rotation of cadres is? This is what happens when somebody has been foreign minister for so many years." This sarcastic comment by Ceausescu to his wife—for whose authenticity this correspondent can vouch—on the palace coup by Mladenov and his friends against Zhivkov in Bulgaria last 9-10 November describes the peculiarity of the Bulgarian process of transition.

Bulgaria is in favor of the Gorbachev formula; that is, to create the figure of a president with extensive political powers. "In this connection," President Mladenov told LA VANGUARDIA, "public opinion in this country is moving in favor of a strong and secure presidential power, which, of course, will not be to the detriment of parliament's prerogatives." Mladenov is convinced that, "at least over the next few years, a strong presidential power should help ensure that the transition from an authoritarian system to a democratic system is peaceful."

[Estarriol] Is there agreement with the democratic opposition on the date—10 June—for the parliamentary elections?

[Mladenov] I could not say so, but there is a narrowing of differences. And there is also one thing that is clear: The elections must be held soon because Bulgaria needs a legitimate parliament and government that are accepted and recognized by everybody.

[Estarriol] If the Communist Party loses the elections, are you prepared to go into opposition?

[Mladenov] Since we have chosen the path of democracy in earnest, the party chosen by the people—whatever it is—will, of course, govern. And if the Communist Party wins, we will propose forming a broad coalition government, even if we secure an absolute majority.

[Estarriol] We still have no coherent version of what happened from the summer until 10 November—the day Zhivkov fell. Could you, as one of the protagonists, give an authentic account?

[Mladenov] From what I know—at least since I have taken part in this work—there was opposition to totalitarianism. At the time of de-Stalinization, I was young. When Khrushchev denounced Stalinism, I was studying in Moscow with other Bulgarian comrades. One of them was current Premier Lukanov.

[Estarriol] Where were you studying?

[Mladenov] We were in the same course at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. Even then we were talking 24 hours a day about our country's problems. Later, we returned to Bulgaria, where we encountered Zhivkovism—a variant of Stalinism. Many of the people with whom I maintained close relations at that time did not accept it—and that was before Gorbachev. I discussed this at that time with the prime minister, who is now speaker of the National Assembly.

[Estarriol] Stanko Todorov?

[Mladenov] Yes. During my student years I also discussed the matter with current Communist Party Chairman Aleksandur Lilov, with whom I worked in the Communist Youth. Later, I had similar conversations with current Deputy Premier Chudomir Aleksandrov and with Defense Minister Dobri Dzhurov.

[Estarriol] When did the contacts with Dzhurov begin?

[Mladenov] We entered the Politburo together in 1973, and in 1977 we were appointed full members. A relationship of trust gradually developed, but until 1988 we did not reach agreement that specific measures must be adopted. The last meeting took place last year, and the rest happened quite normally and in accordance with the party statutes. First, there was a Politburo meeting, and, on the following day, there was a Central Committee plenum.

[Estarriol] What was the atmosphere like?

[Mladenov] I could not say that they were quiet meetings. There was an intense political—but only political—struggle. Everything happened as things should in civilized countries.

[Estarriol] It was said that General Dzhurov played a vigorous role in that Politburo meeting. What form did it take?

[Mladenov] The meeting was very serious, but at no point did we go as far as to bang on the table or make

threats. There were some attempts to block the changes. Only political methods were used.

Soviet Republic

[Estarriol] But you had been placed under house arrest?

[Mladenov] Let us forget these details. Look, I left the house where I was living with my family and stayed in an apartment, because nobody could foresee what would happen, and I did not want my family to suffer the consequences. That is, I was protecting my family, and others were "protecting" me.

[Estarriol] For his part, did Zhivkov offer to make Bulgaria the 16th republic of the USSR?

[Mladenov] Yes. The first time, the proposal was made at the end of 1962 and in 1963, but there are no documents. In 1973, Zhivkov again offered an integration that Gromyko did not accept.

[Estarriol] How do you judge your country's policy on the Bulgarian Turks?

[Mladenov] What happened in 1984 [as published] was a gross breach of the Bulgarian Constitution. It was deplorable since many international commitments on human rights were breached. And this issue was one of the first that we tackled after 10 November.

[Estarriol] Bulgarians of Turkish nationality are not allowed to have their own organizations. How is it possible to talk without an interlocutor?

[Mladenov] I believe that the solution is the path of integration. The best solution is not the path of separation and isolation, but nor is it that of assimilation. I would speak of natural intermingling.

[Estarriol] When will Bulgaria emerge from the crisis?

[Mladenov] I believe that the next two years will be complicated. Perhaps the way out will begin to be glimpsed from the third year, but it depends not only on us but also on Europe.

"Pope Plays Important Role"

[Estarriol] The Bulgarian Catholic bishops have invited Pope John Paul II to visit Bulgaria. Will he also be invited by the country's political authorities?

[Mladenov] The last time I met with the pope, I invited him on behalf of the state leadership. That was at the end of 1988. The Vatican plays an important role in international life, in the problems of peace and security.

[Estarriol] So you invited him on behalf of President Zhivkov...

[Mladenov] Yes, because he was chairman of the State Council.

[Estarriol] How do you view King Juan Carlos' likely coming visit to your country?

[Mladenov] I know your king personally, and I must tell you that he impressed me as somebody who knew Bulgaria's problems exceptionally well. We await his visit, and I believe that it will be important from every viewpoint. Spain experienced a historic time of transition similar to that which we have begun. I am certain that both the authorities and the people, and the opposition, will receive him well.

Mladenov's 24 Oct Letter Published

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[Editorial Report] Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian on 10 April 1990 carries on page 5, the full text of the letter that President Petur Mladenov addressed to the Politburo of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee [CC], the BCP CC members, and the BCP Central Control-Auditing Commission members on 24 October 1989, under the headline: "The Document That Prompted 10 November." A 500-word DUMA editorial note explains that Mladenov's letter was already published in the Soviet MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN journal and that it does not "need any commentary, since it speaks for its author and for the position of the forces that stood behind him." The introductory note further points out that "writing a letter of this kind, prior to 10 November 1989, can only be defined as a really heroic act of civil courage," and refutes the claims of the opposition about being almost entirely responsible for the 10 November events and its attempts of "discrediting the people who were really responsible for 10 November" by propagating "violent anticommunism."

Petur Mladenov's letter addresses the top party offices' members as "comrades" and begins with a very detailed description of Mladenov's family background, education, and career. He explains that he provides all these details in order to clarify that "I am one of you, I am like you, and I was raised in a Communist family."

After this, Mladenov describes the incident of 23 October 1989, which prompted his letter and the ensuing events. He was preparing for a meeting with U.S. Ambassador Sol Polansky, which had been arranged a long time ago, and which he considered very important for Bulgaria's foreign relations. According to Mladenov, "Comrade Todor Zhivkov was informed about this meeting just as he always was about all my meetings and activities." Nevertheless, a few minutes before the meeting with the U.S. ambassador, Mladenov was rather rudely confronted by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivan Ganev, who advised him to tell the ambassador that the "United States is grossly interferring in Bulgaria's domestic affairs, which is inadmissible, and that restructuring in Bulgarian can be accomplished only with Todor Zhivkov." Immediately following this unplesant incident, Mladenov received a telephone call from Todor Zhivkov who repeated Ganev's remarks about "the gross interference" of the United States, adding that such meetings at which only "blah-blah nonsense is exchanged are totally unncessary."

Mladenov expresses his indignation at Zhivkov's "incorrect and totally undeserved attacks" and formally offers his resignation, stating that "under such circumstances I am unable to fulfill my duties as a BCP CC Politburo member and a minister of foreign affairs." Follows a critical passage about Todor Zhivkov in which Mladenov says that "the true reason for Comrade Zhivkov's irritation is the realization that he has involved the country in a deep economic, financial, and political crisis, that with his unsincere policy of small-time cheating aimed at securing the power for himself and his family for as long as possible, he managed to isolate Bulgaria from the world, even from the USSR, and that we have reached the point in which we, Bulgarians, (as the only ones) are put in the same boat with Ceausescu's rotten family dictatorship."

Mladenov further suggests that "it is high time for the Politburo, the Central Committee, and our party to deal with these questions." He expresses his conviction that "Todor Zhivkov will not hesitate to commit even the most impudent crimes, if his power—his most sacred value that he cherishes above all things—should be affected, and I know that he is capable of inventing all sorts of lies and slanders against me as he has already done on several occasions." Mladenov adds that he does not exclude the possibility of "physical violence being used against me or members of my family" and points out in the closing passage of his letter that "if this should happen, I will consider you, my comrades, my longtime fellow workers, whom I love and highly respect, as responsible for such consequences."

Mladenov Discusses His New Tasks

AU1104211490 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 7 Apr 90 p 4

[Report on interview with President Petur Mladenov by Rozalina Kostova; in Sofia on 3 April—"National Interests Are the Main Ones"]

[Text] Strong support from all political forces and the strong personality that he demonstrated during last November's events (the overthrow of T. Zhivkov and the system that he represented) are two of the reasons why Petur Mladenov was elected by the Bulgarian National Assembly on 3 April as the country's first president.

At the same time, his election is a manifestation of the expected positive changes in the country. P. Mladenov is known as a supporter of reform not only today, but also in the past. This is a politician who is thoroughly oriented toward implementing democratic processes and who is an adherent of fundamental socioeconomic changes in Bulgaria. Immediately after his election, he replied to questions at an improvised meeting with domestic and foreign journalists by Rozalina Kostova, our Sofia colleague and a reporter with the SOFIA-PRESS news agency.

[Kostova] As a man, a citizen, and a politician, how do you evaluate your election as the first Bulgarian president?

[Mladenov] I accept this fact as a demonstration of the great trust that the Bulgarian people have placed in me through parliament and the roundtable. At the same time, I accept this post with great responsibility and I will do everything to ensure that, in harmony with the letter of the Constitution and other valid laws, I fulfill my obligations honorably.

[Kostova] What will be your first political steps in your new post?

[Mladenov] First of all, I will hold consultations with the leaders of the political parties and movements about our future work in the interest of guaranteeing truly free and peaceful elections, which will enable us even more to attain our projected goals.

[Kostova] Will the road to Europe be difficult?

[Mladenov] It will certainly be a complicated road. However, Bulgaria has enough strength to go along it. Today it is difficult to say unequivocally how many years we will need for it. I think that with the common endeavor of the people and their representatives in the future parliament, government, and opposition, we will overcome the most difficult problems. It is true that we will need more time to get on an equal footing with the developed European countries.

Lilov Explains BSP Youth Platform

AU1204205590 Sofia NARODNA MLADEZH in Bulgarian 11 Apr 90 p 3

[Report by Valentin Panayotov on reply by Aleksandur Lilov, Supreme Council chairman of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, to a question from a representative of NARODNA MLADEZH at the news conference held in Sofia on 10 April to mark the opening of the party's election campaign]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Aleksandur Lilov departed somewhat from his customary confident style in the manner with which he began his reply to a question from NARODNA MLADEZH:

[NARODNA MLADEZH] Throughout the world public forces are striving to attract the youth. How does the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] plan to do this? Which of the present youth organizations might support the party, and with which of them—both political and nonpolitical—does the BSP have an ideological affinity? What is happening with the party's own youth organization, which is registered in the statute documents of the BSP?

[Lilov] How is our party trying to attract the youth? I want to stress that our party appeals to young electors in Bulgaria, and not merely through a political platform and political slogans about democracy, justice, and humanitarianism. First and foremost, we appeal to the

youth through our own platform, through our own social platform. We draw the attention of the future parliament and government to the main problems of the younger generation in Bulgaria, to the need to solve the difficult problems that modern Bulgarian youth encounter in fulfilling themselves at work, socially, and intellectually. We consider that these problems must be resolved in a way appropriate for a democratic society, and this is the chief feature of the BSP in relation to the youth. Naturally, we are also striving to establish a new attitude toward young people. We do not want the youth to appear in political life only when they have grown long white beards, as is the case now. As far as the party youth organization is concerned, we have a resolution by the Supreme Party Council on creating such an organization, similar to those which the other parties have. We will form such a youth organization in the very near future. However, we are developing our youth policies with an eye toward all young people in Bulgaria. [passage omitted]

Lilov Says BSP To 'Struggle' for Coalition

AU1204210390 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 11 Apr 90 pp 1, 3

[Vasil Popov, Dilyan Todorov report: "The Basic Organizations Will Draft the Election Ticket"—"News Conference of the BSP Supreme Council"]

[Text] Sofia, 10 April—Even if we should win the elections, the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] is resolved to struggle for the establishment of a broadly representative coalition government—this is what Aleksandur Lilov's stated at today's news conference dealing with the BSP'election platform. The coalition government should include competent and energetic people, regardless of their political party affiliation, he added.

The present election ticket will be drafted by the basic party organizations, and not at the party house headquarters as it used to be done for many years. We would like to hear the opinions of all our society, of all our people on the candidates and not only the views of party members, Aleksandur Lilov further stated..

The participation of every single Socialist Party member in the election campaign is one of the basic prerequisites for the election victory, the BSP chairman pointed out. He still hesitated to confirm that the entire party—from the chairman to each individual member—is already totally involved in this process, but he expressed the hope that this should happen as soon as possible.

The election platform by no means suggests a leap into the dark, into the unknown, but proposes a method of overcoming the crisis.

Our slogan is not "Down With," but "Together," Aleksandur Lilov stated. We do not see the face of the enemy in our political adversary, but the face of a political opponent, of a partner. The BSP chairman expressed his serious concern about the fact that the other political parties in our country have not adopted any specific platforms.

He answered indirectly to yesterday's statement made by the Union of Democratic Forces [UDF] leader, who expressed his fear that "the Bulgarian people risk becoming the laughingstock of Europe and the world, if, God forbid, someone should vote for the Communists." The Bulgarian people will never be anyone's laughingstock, but some of us, their political mentors, may become ridiculous if he should underestimate the people."

Severe criticism, denouncement, and rejection of the authoritarian system—but solely and exclusively in accordance with the law—this is one of the major postulates contained in the BSP's election platform. It is based on the refusal of totally denying the valuable assets created by the Bulgarian people over the last decades, upon the clear definition of specific sociopolitical goals, such as the construction of a democratic, humane, and just society in Bulgaria; upon a realistic approach and concern about the socially weak strata of the population in drafting and implementing the anticrisis program; and upon the guarantee of a bloodless transition to democratization.

Aleksandur Lilov described the basic political features of the platform, or the "key words and expressions," as he defined them, in the following terms: peaceful transition, accelerated and socially just solution of the crisis, equal rights, and security for all citizens in Bulgaria.

In dealing with the development of parties based on equal rights, he stressed that no one is entitled to claim being the only proponent of the people's interests. This is the nucleus, the basic source likely to produce totalitarianism, and this awareness stems from our own experience.

Georgi Pirinski dealt with the economic aspects of the platform, while Professor Chavdar Kyuranov explained its social aspects.

Answering the question about when the BSP intends to renounce Leninism, Lilov replied that ideological renewal is one of the preconditions for the party's total innovation. However, this cannot be achieved within a few hours. The decisive and radical expansion of the Socialist Party's intellectual horizon is the prerequisite for its future existence.

It was announced that the BSP is currently working on preparations for the establishment of its own youth organization as was stated in the documents adopted by the 14th Extraordinary Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party, because the existence of such an organization is an essential requirement for the party.

The news conferenc,e which lasted over two hours, was chaired by Elena Poptodorova, head of the BSP press

office. According to unconfirmed sources, she is a "professional diplomat" who was posted in Italy and has been recalled especially for this job.

Lyuben Gotsev, leader of the BSP election campaign center, was the fifth, main participant in the news conference. He answered as follows to DUMA's question on the goals and tasks of the center:

The center is composed of 18 members. This team has been operating for the last 10 days, and like all similar institutions, it has adopted plans on its work with the mass media, with the public, with young people, and with local mass organizations. We are seeking and ready to involve collaborators from all spheres. We will soon open a club, something that happens for the first time in years in this building. Anyone interested will have the opportunity of getting acquainted with our program, our platform, and our activities. Both our supporters and our opponents, even those who wish to confront us on problems of our work, are welcome to the club.

One of the characteristic trends of our work is the effort to extend our work beyond the capital, to visit the provinces, where the majority of people are young and need our assistance. The center is a working collective, expected to operate until election day, and five days after this day in the purpose of evaluating the results of our party's victory, which I am fully convinced of.

Mladenov Chairs Meeting on Ethnic Issue

AU1104192390 Sofia BTA in English 1746 GMT 11 Apr 90

["President Calls for Non-Partisan Ethnic Policy"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 11 (BTA)—This country's ethnic policy should be built on the objective historical truth about the fate of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian people. This policy should be fair and should place in equal conditions all Bulgarian citizens, without granting any privileges or discriminating against anyone on the basis of ethnicity, religious faith and region, said Mr Petur Mladenov, president of the Republic, opening the first session of the state-cum-public commission on the ethnic issue which he chairs in his capacity as head of state.

Mr Petur Mladenov stressed that Bulgaria should implement a flexible, comprehensive and long-term ethnic policy pursuing clearly formulated objectives. Solutions should be sought in the best nationwide interests, avoiding confrontations and clashes. According to the president, it is imperative that short-lived political differences should not be allowed to divert attention from the non-partisan national interests.

Mr Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, briefed the commission on the Government's measures to solve the social problems encountered by Bulgarian citizens who have repatriated from Turkey.

The commission members representing different political forces who took the floor share the conviction that ethnic-based tensions should not be allowed to mount, especially during the election campaign.

'Confrontation' With Ethnic Groups in Silistra

AU1304072690 Sofia BTA in English 2127 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 12 [BTA]—In the Danubian town of Silistra students and a lot of citizens chanted "Why did you abandon in 1989 those on whom you make requests now?"—expressing in this way their protest against the demands of the ethnic Turks who are on strike. This is symptomatic of a serious confrontation between the two ethnic groups in the town. So far the official authorities have taken no action to stop the strike.

Late tonight the relay hunger strike declared by the Rights and Freedoms Movement was forcibly stopped. A large crowd of citizens destroyed the strikers' tent camp in the centre of the town. After the intervention of the law enforcement units, order was restored and a possible much more serious clash was prevented. Interviewed by the BTA correspondent in the area, the head of the Security Office at the regional department of the Ministry of the Interior, Major Georgi Kostadinov, qualified the event as "a gross breach of the peace." The instigator is known, his name is Georgi Kulev, a criminal with several sentences. Acting in a state of alcoholic intoxication, he managed to draw into it other citizens, too. The culprits will be held liable for their acts.

Khaskovo Protest Against Rights For Muslims

AU1204194590 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1900 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] On 12 April in Khaskovo's central square, the Committee for the Defense of National Interests organized a silent rally, thus expressing its disagreement with the measures adopted by the Council of Ministers in connection with resolving the problems of Bulgarian citizens who have returned from Turkey. Signatures were collected against what they call the unjustifiable tolerance of the Muslim population.

The Committee for the Defense of National Interests rally took place about 30 meters from the place where the Movement For Rights and Freedoms is continuing its hunger strike.

General Strike, Strike Alert Recalled

LD1204192390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Representatives of the General Council of the Czechoslovak Confederation of Trade Unions issued an notice in Prague today that the general strike planned for 18 April was recalled, as was the strike alert.

They stressed that the federal government has admitted the legitimacy of trade unions' demands that it presents them with bills concerning trade unions' rights and workers' social security. The federal government will discuss them with trade unions without delay.

Assembly Committees Discuss Country Name Change

LD1204153190 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1300 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] All 18 committees of the Federal Assembly's two chambers discussed in Prague today the enterprising proposal by a group of deputies to issue a constitutional bill to change the name of the state. Following a joint discussion of the Federal Assembly Presidiums, the Czech National Council, and the Slovak National Council, as well as all three governments, a proposal was made to issue a new constitutional law of the Federal Assembly according to which our state should be called the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic.

The discussion on the proposal was extensive and contradictory in some committees. The voting has confirmed that the deputies have not found a joint viewpoint. Out of the 18 parliamentary committees, altogether 12 committees recommended that the draft constitutional bill be adopted: the defense committees of the two chambers; the committees for planning and budget of the Chamber of the People and the Chamber of the Nations; committees for agriculture and food of the two chambers; foreign committees and committees for culture and education of the two chambers; as well as the legal constitutional committee of the Chamber of the Nations and the committee for social policy of this chamber. Voting against the bill were committees for living environment of the two chambers and committees for industry, transport, and commerce, as well as the legal constitutional committee of the Chamber of the People and the Committee for the social policy of this chamber. The argument of the members of the legal and constitutional committee of the Chamber of the People, who voted against the bill, is, for example, the fact that the name of the state cannot be changed every month, that the proposed name will not contain Czechoslovak , as well as the fact that the new name is not semantically precise. Some deputies have recommended completing work on the already valid constitutional law on the name of the state, Czechoslovak Federative Republic, so the actual text of the law is bilingual and contains the Slovak variant of Czecho-Slovak Federative Republic. When this point was discussed, Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek was also present.

Government Issues 'Fundamental Reform Steps'

LD1204214890 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] The overall strategy for radical economic reform was the main item on the agenda of today's Federal Government session. Government spokesman Zbynek Fiala reported that the proposal presented was not definitively approved. A working group to be set up by Deputy Premier Vaclav Vales will assess the comments made in today's discussion, amend the proposal by the end of next week, and submit it once again at the next session. This is what makes up the workload and responsibility of Mr. Vales [appointed on 6 April]—he is to coordinate all the work on reform.

Mr. Vales, together with Deputy Premier Vladimir Dlouhy and Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus, then finalized a communique setting out six fundamental reform steps:
1) to bring about a non-inflationary climate through a restrictive currency and financial policy that, throughout the transition period, will give preference to balance instead of attempts to bring about short-lived invigoration of economic growth;
2) to give a new definition of ownership relations in our economy, which will enable not only private and joint-stock companies to come into being, but also state enterprises of a different type;
3) to radically resolve price problems;
4) to consistently promote economic principles of economic management;
5) to coordinate the effect of the market mechanism and of the state's structural policy, which will assist all economic subjects [hospodarsky subjekt];
6) to effectively involve Czechoslovakia in the world economic system.

All those present agreed that it was vital to see these principles as an indivisible package of measures that cannot resolve our economic problems separately.

Electoral Commission Meets; Officials Chosen

LD1204142490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1030 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] The Central Electoral Commission for the June elections to the Federal Assembly, which was convened by Premier Marian Calfa, met for its first session in Prague today [12 April]. The commission will primarily supervise adherance to legal regulations on elections and will make decisions on complaints concerning the conduct of regional electoral commissions and on appeals against their decisions. It will also safeguard and publish the results of the elections.

The session was opened by Marian Calfa, who reminded those present that the elections to the Federal Assembly

and national councils will undoubtedly be the main political event of this year in Czechoslovakia and that they also have considerable international importance. The members of the commission then took the prescribed oath by shaking hands with Marian Calfa and by their signatures.

The election law stipulates that the commission's chairman and vice chairman are to be chosen by a draw. Of the 42 members present, Zdenek Zahorsky from the Free Bloc [Svobodny blok] was chosen as chairman of the Central Electoral Commission and Jan Kozlik from the Civic Freedom Movement [Hnuti za Obscanskou Svobodu] was chosen as its vice chairman. The session then continued behind closed doors.

Election Commission Holds First Meeting

AU1104104390 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 7 Apr 90 p 2

[Alena Ruzkova article: "Free Elections"]

[Text] Prague (From our editor)—The Czechoslovak Federative Republic Government Coordinating Commission responsible for ensuring that the elections to legislative bodies are organized according to the state's line convened for the first time yesterday. Its chairman—CSFR Interior Minister Richard Sacher—along with other members, gave a briefing on the commission's proceedings at a news conference that took place immediately after the session.

"The commission's activity, which also corresponds to the timetable for its work, consists of the organizational and technical provisions for the elections, the aim of which is to guarantee the trouble-free course of the preparations and of the elections themselves," said R. Sacher at the beginning of the meeting with journalists. In the Czech Republic, it is reckoned that 7.6 million people should vote in more than 10,000 electoral districts; in the Slovak Republic, 3.6 million people should vote in 5,122 electoral districts. As opposed to previous elections, the difference will lie, for example, in the number of candidate lists. "Whereas in the past there was only one list, now there will be at least 15 of them," said Ivan Prusa, CSFR first deputy interior minister. However, this should make greater demands on paper. One thousand and fifty tonnes is required for the ballot papers alone. It is also necessary to increase the amount of information made available to voters about the current system of proportional representation combined with preferential voting instead of the show-of-hands method that has been more or less used up until now.

Another novelty in this year's elections will be the technology for counting the votes. Personal computers should provide great assistance in this; it is reckoned that there will be at least seven of them in each district. While there are at least 100 too few of them in the Czech Republic, there are enough of them in Slovakia. However, those counting the votes will also be fully prepared. The first results gained by individual parties and movements will be made known on the evening of 10 June and priority votes will be made known by the evening of 13 June at the latest.

Another novelty is the parallel or operative monitoring of "preelection behavior." Every two weeks, a public opinion poll will be carried out among approximately 700 respondents on who people will be voting for. The results will be made public on radio, on television, and in the press. Apart from this, as Jan Fiser, Federal Statistical Office deputy chairman, stated, there are another five or seven institutions that will conduct similar surveys.

Those citizens who are serving prison sentences or who are in custody will be given the right to vote for the first time. Although they had been permitted to do so under the law, until now this had not been done in practice.

One of the questions asked most often concerned punishment for "election campaign" practices that slid into illegal forms. "I do not think it will bother us too much if the republic becomes covered in election posters, but it would severely damage the outcome of our revolution if we departed from a certain decency and ethics in the election campaign," said Minister Sacher on this issue. He referred to the fact that slander and disrupting the course of election meetings—and the elections themselves—are punishable in accordance with the penal or misdemeanor law.

Defense Minister on New Military Bulletin

LD1104111990 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1054 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel General Miroslav Vacek said at a news conference today that on 1 January this year, the Czechoslovak Army had almost 200,000 soldiers. Military expenditure in the federation's state budget amounts to 31.18 billion kcs and, in the future, they will not be secret because they will be carried by a newly published bulletin entitled THE CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY—THE FACTS [CESKOSLOVENSKA ARMADA—FAKTY]. It will also carry other data on the structure and numbers of our Army, which were formerly secret.

Government Discusses Economic Reform, Name

LD1204213690 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] The Federal Government had a busy day today. To deal with the end of the proceedings first, the government decided to augment the structure of its bodies with a Committee for Youth and Physical Training [Vybor pro mladez a telovychovu] that will see to it that, among other things, the property of the former Socialist Youth Union does not become the subject of various kinds of speculation.

The government was briefed on the proposal for the new name of our state, and it adopted a standpoint consenting to the proposal. The Federal Government therefore supports the name: the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic [Ceska a Slovenska federativni republika] with a capital C and capital S.

It went on to discuss and approve a law on farming cooperatives—something that will interest hundreds of thousands of people. The law should enable the effective provision of food to the people in market conditions, provide scope for business activity, and cut administrative work in agriculture to the lowest possible level. It gives equal recognition to all forms of ownership of land, and guarantees the proprietor the right to use the land according to his own interests.

It also provides the possibility for individual farmers to leave cooperatives. In cases of this kind, the private farmer starting out on his own is entitled to have his share in the cooperative repaid to him. Family farms can—and undoubtedly also will—be set up.

The most important item on the government's agenda today was economic reform, its basic features and its time frame, and this was spoken about this afternoon at a news conference. The tired expressions on the faces of the government members present showed that the discussions between the supporters of the sharply radical, and [those of a] more gentle, pace of reform was no friendly, casual chat. Nonetheless specific measures can only be adopted from the position of a general consensus of views, and the reports available say that a decisive step was taken towards such a consensus.

We hope to have more details at the end of the television news.

Komarek Discusses Economic Reform

AU1104105190 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 4 Apr 90 p 3

[Report on interview with First Deputy Premier Valtr Komarek by Eva Prochazkova and Petr Sabata; place and date not given—"V.K.'s Alphas and Omegas"]

[Text]

The Strategist of Economic Reforms Says: "The Consequences of Our Own Mistakes are Unfathomable."

Not so long ago he was labeled as the representative of an appeasing and wait-and-see policy, the main tools of which are political gestures and slogans. His speeches resemble those of a politician and a speaker rather than those of an economist and an organizer. We are talking about Associate Professor Engineer Valtr Komarek, doctor of sciences, that is, the Czechoslovak Federative Republic's first deputy premier and the main strategist of economic reforms.

The interview was given before V. Komarek's trip to America. A lot has changed since then; doubt has been heard again, yet it has not been necessary to make many changes in the text.

[Komarek] Very often I have gloomy visions. Our country is not in such a bad shape as Poland, but the situation is not good; and it can be expected that within a few months prices and inflation will rise. The reaction to this, however, will not be a return to the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia's monopoly on power, but the increased influence of nationalist groups whose views touch on fascism. I am allegedly a conservative, since I see the situation more optimistically. In economics, however, nothing must ever be believed. Some people make quick conclusions and it is surprising how quickly they are prepared to make forecasts without being aware of the real state of things. I believe we should try to insult one another and teach one another lessons less frequently. We have a long life ahead of us and it is important to keep in good humor, to smile, and also to be optimistic.

[MLADA FRONTA] Is this optimism of yours based on your trust in our people's abilities?

[Komarek] This nation has proved its qualities. This nation, however, is still not fully aware of its qualities and is willing to take lessons from a number of people who want to satisfy their passion to become saviors or teachers. This nation is a reformist nation in the best meaning of this word. It can face—without illusions and drugs—the complex situations that are waiting ahead, while being aware of its hundreds-of-years-old traditions and moral foundations. I reject the various visions seen by my colleagues—whom I like otherwise—that compare us to some poor, beaten little animals. I do not like some people's pretense that they are saviors, people who think they will teach us how to manage and administer our industry.... people who expose, at the same time, their ignorance of economics. I do not see any reason why we should play dummies who do not know what economics, marketing, world markets, and competition are....

[MLADA FRONTA, interrupting] Let us focus now on the government whose member you are. Do you believe that the government, in the short period of its existence, has done enough for the transition to a market economy?

[Komarek] I am not going to spasmodically defend the government's activity, nor am I going to say that we have done more than would be within human powers. Also, the government is learning, it has its own problems, and its recognition process is short. Yet I would not say that since our appointment we have done little work. It is little, of course, in comparison to the situation we find ourselves in and to what we need. What we have to do, first of all, is to analyze the situation in a broader context and to explain the questions surrounding the transition to a market economy. This includes the prevention of radical irreversible mistakes.

[MLADA FRONTA] You, as the first deputy premier, are responsible for individual steps and from this standpoint your caution is understandable. Yet it is not possible to postpone the start of the transition to a market economy for this reason either. Nor should some first decisive steps be postponed, for example, price reform.

[Komarek] Changing the prices seems to be very simple. We know, for instance, that food prices are subsidized by a negative turnover tax. You are saying: Let us abolish this negative tax and the situation is solved. The price will correspond to real production costs. This looks very attractive. We can even add that there is great enthusiasm for this. People are willing to make sacrifices, so let us take this big reformist step quickly. Yet, I am saying, this is no reformist step. On the contrary, this is naivete. Along with subsidies there are also "hungry" wages in Czechoslovakia. Our average hourly salary is about 15 korunas, that is, less than a dollar at the official exchange rate, and, measured against the black market, not even 35 cents. In Greece, for instance, this average is over $4. In the United States, these cents would not be even enough for dying. Yet we do not live so badly. This is because our "hungry" wages are padded by price subsidies that then form a different purchasing power for the wage. I am talking about food subsidies, low rents, low fares—in the United States the subway fare is $1, in our country it is one koruna. The balance of these reciprocal values must not be disturbed by one-sided action. Such an operation, no matter how simple or elegant it might be, would cause 20 or 30 percent of the population to live at subsistence level.

According to my estimate, this is 900 korunas per capita per month—unfortunately, we do not yet have such concepts defined. And when you consider that 40 percent of expenditure goes on food, you get 350-400 korunas a month, that is, approximately 12 korunas a day.... For families with small children, for pensioners, and for an entire sector of the population with a monthly income of—let us say—under 1,500 korunas per capita, increasing food prices by 25-33 percent is a method that cannot be called economic. This is a severe attack on their standard of living.

[MLADA FRONTA] You are talking about one aspect of this; does it not also have economic benefits?

[Komarek] Such a method does not resolve much in the economic sense—it does not bring the demand for foodstuffs down too much and it in no way influences the high cost of their production. If we want to abolish the turnover tax, we cannot only talk about negative tax. On the other hand, the population is "stretched" by the massive positive taxes that they pay, for instance, on cars and fuels. These are only two examples.

[MLADA FRONTA] Price reform—which you have already spoken about—will, then, not contribute at all to the conversion to a market economy?

[Komarek] We have to ask analytical questions: What is the conversion to a market economy; what is the basis for this; and what kind of strategic moves and associations does this have? First of all, this is not a dynamically formulated sum of measures that will meet somewhere beyond the horizon. The alpha and omega of converting to a market economy is competition, and in a small open economy like Czechoslovakia's this does not only involve domestic competition but also involves foreign competition. We will be far from achieving this by the simple act of price reform if enterprises are to survive in a competitive environment. Competition wants something else for prices: a change, which we call liberalization, and the free determination of prices. If a market entity conducts business and does its accounts, it must have an opportunity to determine prices and it must know what prices it can reckon with. Prices are dictated by market laws and by the balance or imbalance of supply and demand; they cannot be controlled independently of the whole system by the center or from the background by the state's apparatus. Specific price relations are an anticipation of the working of a market economy. It is absolutely naive to think that when we change price relations, increase rents, and reduce the price of cars, we will increase food prices and reduce the price of consumer goods and, thus, approach the market economy. We will create competition by demonopolization; however, not only by multiplying entities, but by creating such conditions that these entities will have to fight for their survival.

[MLADA FRONTA] It is indisputable that the center can arrange—without delay and to its advantage—the adjustment of some value relations.

[Komarek] It is necessary to get rid of value tangles, complicated price deformations, poor relations, and tortuous tax measures and systems; however, it is necessary to realize the scale of the problem and what the priorities are.

[MLADA FRONTA] In your opinion, what fundamental steps will lead to a market economy in Czechoslovakia?

[Komarek] We know that the market means demonopolization, the liberalization of prices, and opening the economy up; we also know that a full-blooded market is not only a market for the population, but is also a money market, a foreign currency market, and a market of labor and capital. It would be touchingly dilettantish to assume that it is enough for us to explain market attributes and what separates us from them and then to begin to create them mechanically. We have to understand that the market is, at the same time, the real operation of economic entities in specific relations, specific interests, and specific motivations, and that this is a real political and economic game of endurance. Our current economy has been formulated by other priorities and by another method of management; it has complicated value and structural deformations, and is—to date—a 100 percent state economy—as far as ownership is concerned—and does not have the prerequisites for

immediately operating in accordance with the market. If we were to proceed from the fact that this merely involves creating prerequisites, then we would bring Western experts here, people who know more about the market than is necessary, and they would outline a model for us within a week. Then, apparently, it would merely be a question of our endurance. You ask when the government will be efficient and when parliament will approve laws quickly. This will take more than three months. I say that the conversion to this type of economy, to a well- functioning market economy, will take a number of years. This does not involve a mere forecast, but involves an idea of the changes that this economy has to go through so that it is indeed capable of competition.

[MLADA FRONTA] Where does the real way lead then?

[Komarek] I have already spoken about the harsh conditions waiting for our enterprises. If they cooperate with Western producers—this is the opening of the economy—they will have every opportunity of becoming competitive quickly. We, the government, must help them to quickly attain this objective—by cultivating human resources, by accelerating structural changes, and by creating general conditions. If we go ahead with decentralization using the government's help, if we eliminate monopoly, and if we curtail feverish and unnecessary demand by severe budgetary restrictions and other provisions, then not only supply will improve. We must—and we will—hit the producers hard in order to improve the consumer's situation. At the same time, we have to create entrepreneurial scope and to ensure that foreign capital and foreign firms do come in. For our enterprises, we have to create the possibility of cooperation with foreign producers, that is, we have to restrict the foreign trade monopoly and the central administration of enterprises, and so on. The development of entrepreneurial activity and competition is the core of the reforms.

[MLADA FRONTA] According to one of your theses, the people will have to make some sacrifices, not by living worse, but by doing better work, by education, and by retraining.... Do you promise, then, the same or a higher standard of living during the transition period to a market economy?

[Komarek] The meaning of market economy—if implemented reasonably—is a stage-by-stage improvement leading to higher efficiency and welfare. We must first reject, however, the contention of the old apparatus that our standard of living is higher than that of the West. Let us have a look at our wages, accommodation, and possibilities to travel, utilization of free time, the quality of the environment, and market supply. It is exactly the market economy that means a big chance to improve the situation.

[MLADA FRONTA] What are the government's "economic" priorities?

[Komarek] It is generally known how many and what kind of economic draft bills we have presented to parliament and what other steps we are taking. It would be naive, however, to believe that the government's energy can be focused only on reform steps. An incredible amount of work still awaits us in the day to day operation of the economy.

I personally am devoting a lot of my energy to explaining the transition to a market economy, to creating a consensus on it, and to preventing extremes, because the consequences of our own mistakes are unfathomable.

Pension Increases Expected by 1 Oct

AU1104103590 Prague PRACE in Czech 6 Apr 90 pp 1,2

[Report on interview with Igor Tomes, deputy minister of labor and social affairs, by Jitka Skaloudova; place and date not given—"Low Pensions To Be Increased"]

[Text] Yesterday, the Federal Government discussed the principles of increases in those pensions that are the only source of income. We asked Associate Professor Dr. Igor Tomes, deputy minister of labor and social affairs, to tell us who may expect his pension to be increased.

The Government of National Understanding considers the lowest pensions, found among the widest strata in our society, to be one of the most unfair of social injustices. This is why the government mainly had these pensions in mind in its social policy statement. The increase will apply to all old age pensions, disability pensions, partial disability pensions, pensions for widows and orphans, and pensions for years of employment awarded according to the regulations valid prior to 1 October 1988.

[Skaloudova] By how much will pensions be increased?

[Tomes] We do not consider a fixed-sum increase to be a fair increase; instead, a percentage increase by four to 10 percent—depending on when the pension was awarded—would be a fair one. Specifically, those who have been granted pensions since 1975 will get 10 percent more; since 1976-78 seven percent more; since 1979-81 six percent more; and from 1984 to 1 October 1988 four percent more. This way, these pensions will more resemble pensions calculated since autumn 1988, when a significant step was taken toward equalizing pensions and wages. Long-time pensioners, rightly, felt this was wrong and so we want to correct this injustice.

[Skaloudova] Those with a lower pension as the only source of income are in the worst situation. Some 1,000 korunas for a single person and 1,700 for a couple is not enough to cover the cost of living.

[Tomes] Of course, it is the category of pensioners in the oldest age group who are unable, in most cases, to make some extra money. We have many of them. At the end of last year, the lowest pensions represented an income for 218,000 individuals and for 27,000 couples. We must

not allow them to live below the subsistence level. Based on research and analyses, we suggest that pensions be increased to 1,200 korunas in the case of individuals. Should a combined pension income be lower than 2,000 korunas per month, then—in the event the pension is also the only income on which a family member is dependent—the pension would be increased to 2,000 korunas.

[Skaloudova] When can one expect the pension increase?

[Tomes] By 1 October 1990. The pension offices and the postal service cannot manage this change sooner.

[Skaloudova] Despite these provisions, however, a pension income will not be sufficient if prices rise.

[Tomes] Currently, there are about 3.5 million pensioners, that is, 22 percent of the population. This year, the increase will apply to 3 million pensioners, that is, to 85 percent of their total number. This will require 0.8 billion korunas. Next year, it will be another 3.1 billion korunas. Society must produce this money so that indexation can begin by 1991. Only a prosperous society can be magnanimous toward its pensioners. We want to present principles for the introduction of periodic indexation to the Federal Government by 30 June this year.

First Issue of Agricultural Party's Weekly

AU1104093290 Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech 4 Apr 90 p 7

[Unsigned report: "VENKOV Belongs to the Countryside"]

[Text] As we reported earlier, the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party begins publishing its own weekly VENKOV [Countryside] with articles in both Czech and Slovak according to the authors' preferences. Just today the first issue will appear in Prague and tomorrow it may also appear in Bratislava and other cities and communities. You will find here not only information on the activity of the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party but also curiosities from country culture, social life, and agriculture. For now, until subscribing to the magazine VENKOV directly from the Postal Newspaper Subscription Service—i.e., at the post office—is possible, the magazine is distributed through the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party district committees.

First Issue of New 'Independent' Weekly

AU1104220790 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 6 Apr 90 p 4

["fp"-signed report: "SLOBODNY PIATOK"]

[Text] Bratislava— The first issue of SLOBODNY PIATOK [Free Friday], the weekly of the Association of Independent Journalists, was published today. It can be had in all kiosks of the Postal Newspaper Subscription Service. The first issue includes, among other things, an exclusive interview with Archbishop Jan Sokol; a reflection by President Vaclav Havel on the need for, and importance of, independent newspapers; and the memoirs of a journalist who had been sentenced to 10 years on charges of "high treason." This man has only recently returned from the Leopoldov Penitentiary. There is also an interesting report by Jan Chovanec on our fellow countrymen living in Hungary, entitled "When a Slovak Cannot Communicate With a Slovak."

De Maiziere Addresses People's Chamber, Nation

LD1204165390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1415 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Addressing the People's Chamber this afternoon, newly elected Prime Minister de Maiziere delivered a short speech to the parliament and citizens of the country. On behalf of the government, he expressed gratitude for the confidence shown. He expressed special thanks to Hans Modrow, the former prime minister, the roundtable and the churches.

At this historic hour he gave an assurance that his government will tackle all the problems in the country with great social responsibility. Consolidating the democratic order and peace at home are the important issues. In addition, there will be efforts to achieve peaceful and friendly neighborliness abroad. The goal is the state unity of Germany in a unified Europe.

Following this statement, the constitutional amendment was passed on second reading and the new wording of the oath thereby approved.

New Government Sworn in According to New Oath

LD1204165790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1440 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Prime Minister de Maiziere and the members of his cabinet were sworn in before the People's Chamber in Berlin this afternoon. They swore their oath on the new text in the Constitution: "I swear that I will devote my strength to the well-being of the people, keep the laws of the German Democratic Republic, fulfill my duties conscientiously and act toward everybody with justice." Each individual minister can supplement that wording with the religious declaration: "So help me God."

New People's Chamber President Interviewed

AU1104221190 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 6 Apr 90 p 2

[Interview with People's Chamber President Sabine Bergmann-Pohl by Rainer Bekeschus; place and date not given: "My Intention—I Want to Remain Humane"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Bekeschus] You will lead this parliament in the 10th legislative period. What do you feel at the moment?

[Bergmann-Pohl] I am almost crushed by the responsibility, which we will have to bear in the future, but I hope that I will live up to my responsibility.

[Bekeschus] The People's Chamber president is explicitly a nonparty office. How would you see your relationship with the other parties?

[Bergmann-Pohl] They are all people for me. I hope that we will support our decisions for the people together, regardless of which party we belong to. We must not have party egotism reign any longer.

[Bekeschus] Our country is in a crisis. Which steps would be particularly important at the moment?

[Bergmann-Pohl] To form a functioning government and let it work. To continue stimulating the economy and to give the people courage for the new tasks.

[Bekeschus] How would you describe your specific task?

[Bergmann-Pohl] I hope that I will be able to reduce the aggressions among all Germans so that we grow together to one German people. The issue is harmony, trust, and cooperation.

[Bekeschus] The exchange rate of 2:1 which was recently proposed by the FRG really worries the citizens. Can our parliament with its possibilities clearly express the will of the GDR voters to the FRG?

[Bergmann-Pohl] My party chairman recently made clear statements on this. I do not see any reason to doubt his words. [passage omitted]

[Bekeschus] For some time you are also the acting state president. Is this one burden more?

[Bergmann-Pohl] I became aware of this only yesterday. But I hope that we will elect a president very soon. And, you know, I am not alone. There are deputies and many other people who will certainly support me. [passage omitted]

Kohl Congratulates de Maiziere on Election

LD1204173390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1459 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Bonn (ADN)—The press and information office of the federal government today published the text of Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl's greetings telegram to newly-elected GDR Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere. It reads as follows:

"Dear Mr Prime Minister, Dear Mr. de Maiziere,

"On your election as prime minister I convey to you my warm congratulations. With you, the people in the GDR have an appreciated and respected representative. What the Germans in the GDR have wished for for decades will now be fulfilled: a head of government will take office who is not put in his position by despotic communist rulers, but who is chosen by the people's free will. You are supported by the clear vote of the electorate in the GDR. This powerful backing will give you strength and confidence in fulfilling your difficult task. Our common task, after decades of enforced separation, is to bring the people of Germany together in a free and united Germany. In this I would like to cooperate with you closely and in a friendly manner. I am sure that we will succeed in accomplishing this great task that the electorate gave us on 18 March.

"We agree that on the way to uniting our German fatherland it is of particular importance to cater to the economic and social needs of the people in the GDR. We both want Germans united in freedom, prosperity and social security, and that means—in a democratic state based on the rule of law and with a social market economy. Let us now set to work together. As I know from our conversations, both of us are ready to do so. We will now work in order to make the old vision of German politics finally come true—in a free and united Europe, a free and united Germany. German soil must always be a source of peace. I wish you luck and God's blessings.

"Your sincerely, Helmut Kohl"

Principles of New Coalition Accord

LD1204124990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0945 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Excerpts from the 'Principles of the Coalition Accord' of 12 April 1990" —ADN headline]

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The preamble to the "Principles of the Coalition Accord" of 12 April 1990 reads:

"The special situation in the GDR since 9 November 1989 makes it necessary, in the pursuance of achieving a solution to the tasks for the future which are on the agenda in the process of the unification of the two parts of Germany, to put interests of party tactics last, and to form a grand coalition for the period of the growing-together of the two German states.

The aim of the coalition is:

—to ensure prosperity and social justice for all citizens of the GDR,
—to implement liberty and the principles of the rule of law,
—to realize the unity of Germany swiftly and responsibly for the whole of the GDR simultaneously after negotiations with the FRG on the basis of Article 23 of the Basic Law, and thus to make a contribution to the European peace order.

In elaborating a new GDR Constitution or, in case that does not come about, in amending the Basic Law, the government's aim in negotiations is to introduce social rights to protection as legally inviolable individual rights. This applies especially to the right to work, housing, and education. These rights are guaranteed in the form of decisions on state goals.

The document says further that the coalition partners are agreed that the content of the regulations to be agreed between the GDR and the FRG, "and in particular of the expected state treaty on the creation of a monetary, economic, and social union should correspond in their basic characteristics to the present agreements between the coalition parliamentary groups."

The preamble also notes: "There is agreement that the process of German unification is to be shaped by means of parliamentary participation. The People's Chamber and the Bundestag should each form a parliamentary commission on German unification, to which each parliamentary president should belong. These commissions should meet jointly on a regular basis and should form a joint Commission on German Unity. Each individual commission should report back regularly to its parliament. It should be authorized to issue tasks to other commissions in its parliament.

A precondition for unity is the creation of compatible lands structures with the FRG, which make necessary lands parliaments, a lands constitution, and preparatory measures for a lands chamber. Certain tasks and questions of financing should be regulated following the formation of the lands.

The coalition partners agree, provided such matters may be financed, on the contents of the joint policies as noted in the appendix. If there are differing views between the coalition partners on questions of financing, which are linked with fundamental political decisions, then the coalition commission will discuss this; it should decide jointly in the spirit of the coalition agreement and of cooperative partnership."

The principles also include the section "organizational agreement." This states:

"Parliamentary initiatives that go beyond the coalition agreements require the consultation and agreement of all parliamentary groups on their content and procedure. Where there is no consensus, the coalition committee, headed by the chairman of the strongest coalition partner, is to meet to reach a joint coalition position.... All parliamentary groups are committed, in the framework of the coalition agreements, not to vote with variable majorities, although the freedom of conscience of the individual deputies remains unaffected.... The coalition partners form a coalition committee. It includes the premier, a minister from each of the other coalition parliamentary groups, and a member from each of the parliamentary group executives. Experts from the coalition parliamentary groups will intermittently be included in the discussions of the coalition committee.... The premier's authority to set guidelines, particularly in the area of German policy, is guaranteed."

Concrete agreements on a future government policy are set out in the form of several appendices to the "principles." In the section "Foreign and Security Policy Basic Positions" it is stated:

"In the area of foreign and security policy, the unification of the two German states, their incorporation in the pan-European integration and protection against the risks of unification have priority."

The unification of Germany should not interfere with security in Europe, and should further the creation of a pan-European order of peace, democracy, and cooperation.

"It is fundamental to this that the neighbors are sure of their borders with Germany. The recognition of the Polish western border, binding under international law, as described in the Goerlitz Treaty with Poland and in the Federal Republic's Warsaw Treaty with Poland, is essential to this. The two German parliaments should make an identical statement on this. A border treaty on the existing border is to be initialled between the two German states and Poland, and signed by the German Government and ratified by the parliament after unification. After the completion of the unification of the two German states, the future German Constitution is to no longer to contain Article 23 of the Basic Law. Germany has no territorial claims on other states, nor will it raise any in the future."

The document also states: "The united Germany will shape its future in cooperation with the CSCE states. Like the rest of Europe, it will find its security in a pan-European peace order." Therefore the GDR Government feels that the principles of Helsinki and the documents of the Helsinki follow-up conferences should become binding under international law and that the CSCE should have its own institutions.

It is in the German interest that Germany should be firmly integrated into the EC and in a future pan-European security system.

"The GDR's contractual commitments toward third countries will remain valid and will if necessary be modified in agreement with the respective contractual partners."

The subsection "The Unification Process and Foreign Policy" states:

"The main task of the foreign policy of the GDR Government is the incorporation of the process of German unification in the all- European unification process. The CSCE is playing an essential role in this. The integration demands transitional solutions in the areas of military security and the economy. They are necessary in order to avoid obstacles and delays to unification through its external aspects.

"It is the task of the GDR Government to advocate promoting the process of the dissolution of the military alliances through a pan- European security system. It is to be assumed that the united Germany will be a member of NATO, which is changing in its military functions, for a transitional period until the creation of a pan-European security system. The East European states can only be expected to tolerate NATO membership of a united Germany if the renunciation of NATO strategies, in force presently, such as forward defense, flexible response, and first use of nuclear weapons, is securely connected with it.

"German Armed forces, whose task is the defense of the present territory of the GDR and who are neither subordinate to NATO nor a part of the Bundeswehr, are to be on this territory for a transitional period, alongside the Soviet Armed Forces.

"The GDR Government seeks drastic disarmament of all German Armed Forces. In the disarmament steps which are due, the German Armed Forces, taken together, should not be larger than the U.S. or Soviet Armed Forces deployed in Central Europe. Disarmament steps necessary for this are to be initiated in anticipation of the reductions sought in Vienna II and subjected to verification within the framework of the CSCE. Final upper limits will be laid down in collaboration with the CSCE participant states in the Vienna negotiations (CFE II).

"The GDR renounces the production, transfer, and possession of NBC [nuclear, biological, chemical] weapons, and seeks a corresponding renunciation by the united Germany. It also advocates a global ban on chemical weapons before the end of this year, the strengthening and further validity of the nonproliferation treaty, and the continuation of the nuclear disarmament process."

The coalition agreement also says:

"With these contributions to a system of peace and security in Europe, conditions can be created for the removal of the rights of the World War II allies for Germany as a whole. The GDR Government is in favor of this removal taking place within the framework of the two-plus-four talks; this removal belongs in the overall framework of the CSCE process for the creation of an all-European peace system.

"Until the unification of Germany the GDR will be negotiating on the extension of the EC to the present GDR. The aim of the negotiations is the setting of limited periods until the full assumption of the contractual obligations and rights (i.e., special regulations for the spheres of trade, agricultural market, tax system, social and ecological standards). The negotiations will take place in coordination with the federal government and—when the matter requires it—through the all-German Commission.

"The GDR wants to develop and deepen its special link with the people of East Europe in the economic, political, and cultural spheres. It supports an early, step-by-step extension of the EC. It will promote Berlin as Germany's capital after unification in order to give special expression to this bridging function.

"With regard to the GDR's foreign trade commitments, especially with the Soviet Union, solutions must also be found within the EC framework in the spirit of the GDR's loyalty to its contracts, which above all contribute to the stabilization and strengthening of relations in Central and East Europe."

The GDR Government applies to take part in the discussions within the framework of European political cooperation.

The GDR Government will immediately join in the consultations of the Council of Europe and the European Human Rights Convention.

The GDR Government is striving for a united Germany to commit itself to preventing a revival of Nazism and of Stalinism, of hatred of other peoples, and of racial hatred, with the necessary means, and to ensuring the peaceful coexistence of Germans and foreigners in Germany.

The subsection "CSCE; Security Policy," states:

"The GDR Government will, where possible, submit to this fall's CSCE conference, together with the federal government, proposals that will lead to structures, binding under international law, for a new European security system to include the United States, Canada, and the Soviet Union. This includes in particular a mandate for the continuation of the Vienna CSCE negotiations, with the goal of drastic troop reductions and the restructuring of the Armed Forces to purely defensive capacities.

"The GDR Government advocates the acceleration of the conclusion of the first phase of the Vienna negotiations. In addition to the disarmament agreements, it is particularly interested in the creation of an effective verification system, which is to become the nucleus of the future European security."

The GDR Government will work to ensure that as soon as possible, through negotiations, the basis under occupation law for the presence of troops of other countries in Germany, which should be considerably cut, be replaced by a contractual basis.

"The GDR Government advocates in particular:

—The formation of a CSCE security agency for the verification of the disarmament and restructuring agreements;
—the creation of a CSCE body for conflict mediation;
—the formation of a permanent joint council of the foreign and defence ministers.

The GDR Government will immediately initiate measures, first to restrict the production and export of military weapons, and then to stop it in a clear period (by 1992, if possible). Arms exports to crisis regions must cease absolutely. The consequences of ending arms production and of the drastic reduction of troop levels will be absorbed socially and economically (conversion programs). It issues an invitation for international cooperation in the elaboration of conversion programs.

The GDR Government advocates a restructuring of the People's Army and a step-by-step reduction of the GDR's military obligations. Political cooperation within the framework of the Warsaw Pact will be intensified.

The GDR Government advocates the withdrawal from German soil of nuclear and chemical weapons.

On development policy, it is laid down:

"Together with all the developed countries of Europe, the GDR and the future united Germany stand by the obligation to work toward the dismantling of the North-South divide, to erect a more just world economic order, to reduce arms exports, and to contribute toward understanding and tolerance among cultures."

"The GDR government advocates the transfer of a proportion of the arms expenditure of the two German states for an all-German development policy."

On domestic and legal policy, the coalition accord contains stipulations concerning the following areas: The constitution, administrative reform, justice, protection of persons and data, and overcoming the Socialist Unity Party of Germany past.

"A foundation in constitutional law is necessary to ensure internal peace in our society," it says on this subject. "In the further shaping of the constitution, the coalition advocates transitional arrangements with regard to both the 1949 Constitution and the Round-table's draft constitution."

Social safeguards, especially a duty to promote employment, are to be enshrined in the constitution.

On the subject of administrative reform, it is stated: "The goal is to create a federal republic, including a necessary lands chamber. Delimitation of the rights of the lands and the center is to be aligned with the Basic Law in a compatible manner. Appropriate structures linking the lands coming out of the GDR are to be created.

"The creation of the lands should, as far as possible, follow the structure in force until 1952, including the reorganization of administrative districts. Lands structures must be formed in close coordination with the population, having regard to economic aspects and the requirements of administrative law. (...) For the time being, there should be no introduction of a professional civil service."

The coalition also supports a restructuring of the justice apparatus being differentiated according to personnel and taking place in accordance with the principles of a state based on the rule of law. "Judges and state attorneys, who have in particular violated the principles of a state based on the rule of law and on the Constitution in political criminal cases, may not remain in office."

The concrete tasks were listed, among other things: formation of a constitutional court, step-by-step creation of a comprehensive administrative jurisdiction, setting up of separate labor and social courts, restructuring of contractual courts into ordinary courts, creation of a free legal profession, admission of individual notaries and

solicitors' notaries, abolition of military courts, integration of the state attorneys into the justice system in accordance with the division of powers, maintenance or new ordering of citizens' cooperation in jurisdiction, as well as the guarantee of free legal information.

A data protection representative should be deployed by the parliament. "There must be no secret police. An office for the protection of the constitution with police or criminal procedure powers is inadmissible."

It is noted in the subsection called "Coming to Terms with the Socialist Unity Party of Germany past:"

"The coalition is agreed that a government commission must be set up, which is subordinate to the interior minister and which cooperates with the relevant parliamentary commission. It has the task of clarifying the structure and of working out a political strategy for the further dissolution of the MFS/AFNS [Ministry for State Security/Office for National Security]

"The coalition is further agreed that a complete disclosure of the property of the SED/PDS must take place, the legality of which should be checked. Property acquired illegally should be expropriated and handed over to the state budget. Part of this should be used for compensation payments."

The coalition accord lays down: "The establishment of currency, economic and social union is one of the most important tasks of the new government. Currency, economic, and social union can only come into force simultaneously." The date is given as 1 July 1990.

On this subject, the following details must be stipulated in a state treaty between the GDR and the FRG:

—Differentiated exchange for the GDR population's savings balances and insurance policies with the effect of savings at a ratio of 1 to 1;
—conversion of wages and salaries at a ratio of 1 to 1, after splitting up previous subsidies on goods and services in favor of an additional payment on a per capita basis;
—conversion of pensions at a ratio of 1 to 1, with a step-by- step increase of average minimum pensions to 70 percent of labor income in connection with a dynamic development of pensions, after splitting up previous subsidies on goods and services in favor of an additional payment on a per capita basis;
—cancellation or conversion of the publicly-owned enterprises' domestic debt to strengthen their competitiveness, and implementation of adaptation assistance for enterprises capable of being organized on a competitive basis, through, for example, debt clearance under the reorganization procedures customary in the EC."

The document also outlines the "contents of a social union" and lists the following details:

—A legal arrangement for dismissals protection (with particular regard to women, single parents, the disabled and large families) and labor contract law, etc., through reworking of the GDR labor code;
—when currency union (and the lifting of price controls connected with it) is achieved, labor incomes and pensions must be raised by an additional per capita payment arising from the splitting up of the previous subsidies on goods and services, to be followed by a 1-to-1 conversion;
—step-by-step raising of pensions to a net pension level of 70 percent after 45 insured years;
—retention or introduction of a general compulsory pension insurance scheme;
—fixing of rents for housing, dependent on the general development of income, housing allowances for the socially weak, dismissal protection for tenants;
—safeguarding the right to housing by stepping up social house construction, taking account of housing for the disabled and the elderly;
—an employment-promotion law for the shaping of an active labor market policy (including unemployment support on the FRG model, with an initial value of 70 percent of net income);
—safeguarding of women's interests in providing jobs, retraining, and further education;
—establishment of a law on wage agreements;
—a law on taking over the FRG's worker participation law and industrial relations law in an adapted form; replacement of the trade union law by arrangements in the constitution and the unification law.

In connection with social policy, the coalition accord also contains stipulations on the areas of social insurance, and health service, youth, women's and family policy, and sport.

The following measures in the area of ownership problems are also deemed to be necessary:

—Recognition of allied jurisdiction;
—law on securing ownership rights from the land reform;
—law on securing other ownership and possession rights of GDR citizens where ownership and use rights were procured in loyalty and good faith;
—legal regulation on the legal position of communal, cooperative, and state property;
—law on securing national ownership of buildings for residential purposes, whereby it should be made possible for tenants to accrue ownership of residential space.

The coalition partners are agreed that land may be traded in principle. In transferring land into private hands, speculation should be prevented, especially by means of construction and land law.

"In a transitional period of 10 years, natural and juridicial persons who do not live in the GDR on a certain qualifying date may in principle only be granted a right of hereditary lease with a right of preemption following

the termination of the transitional period at the market prices valid at that time," the agreement notes.

It is noted in a subsection "Privatisation and Accumulation of Property" that the coalition partners are agreed "that national property to date will be transferred, within the meaning of a market economy order, in principle within suitable legal forms, into the property of private individuals and in particular cases into the property of regional administrative bodies."

The following features of a suitable model are named,- among other things:

—Nationally owned enterprises are decoupled in an economically sensible way and transferred into suitable legal forms.
—The trust company, whose controlling body is sufficiently filled with qualified people and responsible to the People's Chamber, assumes the property rights of the converted companies for a transitional period. The finance and economics minister are legal members of the controlling body of the trust company.
—The trust company works according to the model of a joint stock company in the FRG. It may, like the latter, issue shares and share certificates.
—The right to purchase share certificates is held by anyone who

a) was a GDR citizen before 7 September 1989 and who is still a GDR citizen when the law comes into force.

b) was a GDR citizen before 7 September 1989 and who returns to the GDR within a period up to three months after the law comes into force.

Against the background of public information on a planned state treaty between the GDR and the FRG, the document mentions the following points, which are to be settled in the state treaty on the basis of the coalition negotiations on economic and financial policy.

—currency, economic and social union in accordance with point one of the agreement on economic and financial policy.
—The involvement of the GDR in the Central Bank Council of the Bundesbank in accordance with FRG regulations, with five equal votes for the lands which are to be founded, should be made clear.
—Start-up financing for social security, national insurance and pension schemes.
—Equal participation of the GDR in the coordination of the process of German unification with the EC and the necesaray transitional regulations with the EC.
—Clarification of the relationships and the contractual relations with the countries of the CEMA, particularly the Soviet Union.
—Financial support for measures for the development of the infrastructure, and environmental protection.
—Forms of a redistribution of income between the GDR and the FRG, in order to guarantee the state budget.
—Recognition of the forms of ownership, including land reform and other expropriations determined by the victors, as well as the other regulations on property matters in accordance with the coalition agreement.
—Post and railways union as soon as possible.
—Financial support for small- and medium-sized enterprises and start-up capital through European recovery program loans and other aid.
—Recognition of the legal consequences resulting from the legislation made by the People's Chamber elected on 18 March 1990.

In the sphere of environmental protection and energy the coalition treaty stipulates the principle—polluter pays—and of taking precautions. Market economy mechanisms and independent controls will be implemented through a system of environmental regulations.

The document backs a structural transformation favoring production which is low in byproducts and environmentally sound, the building of an efficient environmental industry, the promotion of an economical use of natural resources, including recycling, and the gradual shutting down of production sites which pose a grave threat to the environment. It also lays down the framework for environmental legislation, including the establishment of a system of environmental disciplinary measures.

It further states in this connection: "The abovementioned principles will form the basis for drafting a state treaty with the FRG. A relevant pump priming is needed for its implementation. The issue of the use of existing nuclear power stations and those under construction as energy supplies will be decided through a consensus within the coalition. The decision on the construction of more nuclear power stations on GDR territory, including the second stage of development of the Stendal nuclear power station, is reserved for a future all-German government."

The coalition document describes as indispensible "a broadly- structured, efficient and ecologically-oriented agricultural and forestry economy."

All forms of ownership in the agricultural and forestry industry will be guaranteed and placed on an equal legal footing. Ownership relations which have emerged on GDR territory as a result of the land reform will not be questioned. Contentious ownership issues will be clarified in cooperation with the relevant authorities of the Federal Republic, taking into account compensatory measures. Illegal dispossessions after the land reform will be investigated. A new land reform which makes land valuable again will be created.

"All changes in the ownership of land as well as real property effected after 10 August 1989 will be investigated in terms of their legality and if necessary declared null and void."

During the several-year transitional period and for the purpose of establishing competitiveness within the EC framework, protective measures of every kind will be taken to stabilize agriculture in the GDR.

Land legislation, lifting the LPG [collective farm] law, as well as a cooperative law, are named as the most pressing legislative measures.

The principles on agriculture will be the starting point for the state treaty with the FRG. "They cannot be realized without pump priming."

The cultural policy is to guarantee unimpeded cultural-artistic creativity free of any state regulation. On this subject it is laid down that "the government recognizes the need to subsidize culture and art. This includes the public promotion of culture and institutions which spread culture (theaters, libraries, museums, and other cultural establishments) and the securing through state measures (special agreements, endownments, prizes) of a cultural infrastructure that does justice to demand. (...) The government will create the prerequisites in order to decentralize and federalize culture and cultural policy and will set up the cultural sovereignty of the Laender."

The following "media policy agreements" were made:

"1. To rapidly pass media legislation with the following main emphases:
—guaranteeing freedom of opinion, information and media;
—legally safeguarding the public nature of radio and television;
—authorizing legal bases for private suppliers;
—legally safeguarding internal media freedom. (The work of a media control council to be convened by the People's Chamber will be continued until the new media legislation is adopted.)
"2. In anticipation of a future legal state treaty, a regulation on license fees for radio/television will be made as quickly as possible, which establishes the sovereignty of charges of a broadcasting company.
"3. To introduce a law in the GDR media sphere which is in accordance with the Federal German law on monopolies."

The section on "education agreement" states: "The state must see that parents have the right to send their children to a state school. Private schools, denominational schools, and independent schools have equal rights as far as the allocation of state resources and the recognition of final examinations are concerned." "The implementation of the ideological neutrality principle of the state school is called for." On the subject of structures in the education system it states further: "Vocational training with the Abitur and adult education training will be preserved. The establishment of a certain type of school will be decided by the citizens, in particular of the parents."

The teachers and pedagogues employed since October 1989, who have been full-time workers for the FfS [Ministry of State Security] will be examined according to their professional qualification and, if need be, discharged from the school service.

From a "final comment": in the document there emerges the unity of the coalition partners on the fact "that in all the areas of life which have been addressed the leading positions will be decided vis- a-vis their suitability and independent of party membership." Personnel decisions which are current and which have been taken up to the time of the government taking office are, as required, to be examined according to legal criteria.

SPD's Boehme To Resume Post After Easter

AU1204205490 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 10 Apr 90 p 2

[DDP report: "Boehme Resumes Seat as Deputy"]

[Text] Ibrahim Boehme, former chairman of the Social Democratic Party [SPD], intends to resume his seat as a deputy after Easter. Boehme wrote a letter to this effect to the newly elected People's Chamber President Sabine Bergmann-Pohl (Christian Democratic Union), as DEUTSCHER DEPESCHEN DIENST (DDP) learned from SPD circles yesterday. Boehme, who, after his physical collapse, is now considerably better, is currently staying with friends in the GDR.

Commentary Views Start of Parliamentarism

AU1104221090 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 6 Apr 90 p 2

[Matthias Schlegel commentary: "Go-Ahead for Parliamentarism"]

[Text] After 19 October and 9 November 1989, as well as 18 March 1990, 5 April 1990 will also enter GDR history as a date, which signifies a particular break within a profound process of social change. The constitution of the parliament of our country, which was elected in a truly free and democratic way, concludes the period of the "hands-up" People's Chamber, which simply gave its blessing to a policy, which had been preprogramed by the centralist powers. Already before the elections, it became clear that the self-liberation of the people in our country for the first time created a plurality of opinions, the channeling and implementation of which in government policy makes the parties finally and really achieve responsibility, which is rooted in parliamentarism.

At the first decision of the democratically legitimized People's Chamber, the election of the president, the majority decided in favor of a candidate, who is completely unburdened and, thus, naturally, widely unknown. This seems not only based on the strength of her Christian Democratic Union of Germany [CDU] group in terms of numbers, but this may also express the broad consensus to symbolize a new beginning with new names.

One thing is certain: The newly established parliament now faces the difficult problems which result, not least, from the fact that, in an unprecedented action shortly before the doors were closed, the departed deputies passed numerous laws and regulations, which document

the enormous confusion and the spirit of the interim parliament that had been slightly freshened up at some time in the past: half-heartedness.

It may be doubted whether the new parliamentarians are already aware of the entire scope of their responsibility and of the expectations that have been placed on them. Because they will have to make there political work practically their profession. This is the only way we can make sure they fulfill their tasks with the necessary competence. The next steps—that is, the election of the premier, the formation of the government, the formation of opinion concerning the constitution, the passing of the first important laws—are impatiently awaited by the citizens all over the country, because they are to be speedy steps in the direction that has been hoped for with the vote on 18 March: toward economic, monetary, and social union, toward German unity, toward administrative reform, and other things. Now all eyes are directed toward the further coalition negotiations between the CDU and the Social Democratic Party.

By the way: After the announcement of the election results, the People's Chamber president by seniority forgot to ask the new president whether she accepts the office. Maybe the charm of the first woman in this position or the inexperience in parliamentary work confused him. Mrs. Bergmann-Pohl accepts the election, "usually well-informed circles" said....

Problems of Self-Awareness in GDR Viewed

AU1104224090 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 7-8 Apr 90 p 9

[Thomas Leinkauf commentary: "Did the GDR Really Not Exist at All?"]

[Text] Sometimes I feel as if I lived in a state of suspension. The days of the GDR are numbered. I do not quite know what to expect in the future. I ask myself whether I will find my place as a citizen of the future German state.

Heiner Mueller said that, basically, the GDR never existed at all. He probably means that, despite many efforts, it never had a real chance of becoming independent. I do not know whether Mueller is right. The early attempt to go its own independent German path toward socialism was rigorously interrupted by Stalin and Ulbricht before the founding of the republic. What followed then was the building of a state according to the Soviet, Stalinist example. The break with our own historical tradition was soon followed by a strict delineation toward the other German republic. It culminated in the decreed view that what is developing in our country is not only a new state but a new, socialist German nation.

It probably existed only in the minds of those who would have liked to have it—also in mine. Of course, the state GDR existed—as part of the continuing German nation.

In this strange state between unity and division, common points and separating points, claims and reality, those who lived here came into a schizophrenic situation, which we often did not even recognize. On the one side, there was the idea, which was rather attractive to many people. And values, such as social security, solidarity in dealing with each other and with other peoples, and antifascism stood not only on the paper but they were part of our living reality. Some people, who were committed to these values, identified themselves with this state because of them.

However, the other Germany never let us go completely—there was not only the common history, common language, and common culture. With its material wealth, the freedom of thinking and opinion of its citizens, and its freedom of movement, the FRG reality, despite its weaknesses, constantly confronted us with the half-heartedness of our own attempt.

Today we know that the state, in which we have lived for such a long time, could not last. I think that identification with one's own country cannot be established if one says yes to the acceptable things but pushes away the unacceptable things. I think that it needs the opportunity to honestly deal with the contradictions of one's own development. This presupposes knowledge about these contradictions.

I think that taking all unpleasant things out of the history and of the present made it impossible to see ourselves. For me it is the most tragic consequences of the GDR experiment that this deprived us of the possibility to understand who we really are.

It will take a long time before an awareness of ourselves will develop. Because self-awareness presupposes self-respect. But while we are just starting to deal with our own past, the sudden annexation again deprives us of the opportunity to find ourselves. Before we will become aware of ourselves, we will probably long be influenced again by another awareness. I am afraid that we might again adopt an identity that is just external.

Richard Wagner said that being German means doing something for the sake of itself. We did this, and in the end an entire people was not only cheated out of the fruits of hard work but also out of its ideals. "Being finally German again," as many people now wish, is suspicious to me, because it again sounds like an idea about which I do not know the meaning.

Perhaps it is good that our search for our own future, life's maxim takes place at a time, when so many things are changing in Europe. The end of the GDR coincides with the end of the unnatural division of the continent. Ideological cliches will not deceive our minds in the future. I can imagine that it is exciting to learn to be German Europeans or European Germans. I can think of many things in this respect: Curiosity about the life of the others without having to be ashamed of one's own life; tolerance toward the other without denying oneself; learning from each other by offering something oneself.

If we free ourselves from the patterns of thinking of the past in this process and do not leave any room for new cliches, we might perhaps finally find ourselves.

Criticism Directed at FRG Intelligence Service

AU1304103790 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 11 Apr 90 p 2

[Rainer Funke commentary: "Starting Aid"]

[Text] In Merianstrasse in Cologne, the seat of the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, people are in the process of designing the intelligence service structures for the future Germany. As far as one hears, these are no longer just mental exercises. To give just one example, suitable part-time and full-time employees for branch offices of the FRG Office for the Protection of the Constitution, which are to be established in the future laender, are industriously being sought in the GDR.

Parallel to that, the Federal Office is launching rumors, speculations, and slander in order to stir up uncertainty in the GDR. The groundless suspicions that the Party of Democratic Socialism [PDS] and its party chairman gave the order to build up an independent security service, which is recruited from former members of the Ministry of State Security, cannot be assessed in any other way. It is a fact that, in particular, the "Alliance for Germany" has turned to Bonn asking for "accompanying aid" in terms of personnel and know-how for building up an apparatus, which can be compared with the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, as DIE WELT reported on Tuesday. In order to avoid the impression of leading by the nose, experts from the FRG should give starting aid, "but the personnel for the new offices should be generally recruited in the GDR."

What kind of aid this entails is as clear as daylight. BAYERNKURIER wrote that the Office for the Protection of the Constitution has the task "to work underground and to spy out all possible and impossible actions of people hostile to the Constitution."

Who these enemies are is set down by the gentlemen from the Office for the Protection of the Constitution themselves. There are no definitions, laws, or regulations on this matter that are available to the public. Thus, spying continues on all people who think differently in the German regions, regardless of who they are—from the PDS, the New Forum, and Democracy Now on one side, to the Greens, the Social Democratic Party of Germany, and the Communists on the other. Everything as it was—only now in an all-German framework.

New Forum's Bohley Denounces Stasi Rumors

AU1204150990 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 10 Apr 90 p 1

[NZ report: "Baerbel Bohley: Rumors Promote Distrust"]

[Text] East Berlin—Baerbel Bohley, cofounder of the GDR's New Forum, said that the allegation that Ralf Hirsch, associate of Berlin's Governing Mayor Walter Momper (Social Democratic Party of Germany) was a former Stasi [State Security Service] spy is a "witch-hunt" seeking to prevent further investigation of Stasi files. Publishing such rumors without checking them only leads to uncertainty and distrust in the GDR, Mrs. Bohley said on Sender Freies Berlin (SFB) Network on Monday morning [9 April]. In order to create the necessary trust in the country it is necessary to have the past of all citizens who accept or have accepted responsibility investigated, Mrs. Bohley demanded.

According to information acquired by BILD AM SONNTAG, Hirsch, who has been working in the office of Momper's State Chancellery since December 1989, was a former Stasi spy

Lafontaine Interview on United Germany, Poland

AU1004173290 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 6 Apr 90 pp 1, 7

[Interview with Oskar Lafontaine, minister-president of Saarland and deputy chairman of the SPD, by Katarzyna Kolodziejczyk; place and date not given: "The German Alternative"]

[Text] [Kolodziejczyk] Could you tell us how the programs of the two largest FRG parties, the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] and the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union differ on the unification of Germany?

[Lafontaine] The SPD is seeking to place German policy within the European community. We are looking for solutions of a European kind and for that reason alone it would never occur to us to question existing frontiers in Europe. However, this not only applies to frontiers, but also to issues connected with the currency union, which—if it is to be realized—must also be incorporated into the general European currency system. Further, it also concerns policy on a security system. Today, if we are seeking security for Europe, then we have to seek it together with our neighbors. This means that we have to reach agreement on this issue with Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and the other states of Europe, as well as with the Soviet Union.

[Kolodziejczyk] The unification of Germany also means having to find a new definition of the role and position of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The question of a neutral future Germany is also being discussed. How do you view these issues?

[Lafontaine] The concept of neutrality in the classical sense no longer exists in the contemporary world. Economic, financial, and other issues have never before resulted in the countries of the world being so closely linked to one another. If we take ecological issues or security as an example, then it is clear that no state is in a position to solve these issues by itself. These are the

reasons why supranational solutions have to be sought, and this applies to the old security system, which arose during the Cold War, above all. The states of East Europe are slowly becoming democracies. The old, confrontational system based on two hostile camps has ceased to exist, and so the military pacts that were appropriate under that system have lost their meaning. Thus, we have to find new solutions, which take account of all the European states, as well as the interests of the USSR and the United States and Canada.

[Kolodziejczyk] Do you think that the United States should maintain its presence in Europe?

[Lafontaine] Very much so, because our cooperation with the United States has proven itself on many occasions. I think that we have to continue to expand and develop it.

[Kolodziejczyk] How do you envisage the development of relations between a united Germany and the rest of Europe?

[Lafontaine] I see the future in terms of solutions that are oriented toward integration; that is, solutions that are not based exclusively on the interests of the nation state.

These were the reasons behind the creation of the Franco-German military brigade, which was nothing other than the creation of a system of mutual confidence and security.

That experience was behind my proposal to create a Polish-German military brigade. I am pleased that the idea has been received well. My talks with Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski and other Polish politicians also indicate a positive response. Viewing the problems of European integration in terms of the future, I think that the Soviet Union will also come to support this idea.

[Kolodziejczyk] The SPD and you personally have on several occasions supported Poland's proposals concerning a united Germany. How do you view prospects for the conclusion of a treaty between Poland, the FRG and the GDR before unification takes place?

[Lafontaine] We have given the proposals our clear support. The point is that following unification the German parliament should be able to ratify a document that has already been signed without any difficulty. We also support Poland's participation in the "two- plus-four" talks. This is because we appreciate that the talks should take account of Polish interests.

[Kolodziejczyk] There are also fears that the integration of West Europe, which is to take place in 1992, will result in the isolation of East Europe, because of its backwardness. Do you share those fears?

[Lafontaine] In reply to your question, I would like to mention the proposal made by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki concerning the establishment of a Council of European Cooperation; a proposal that I strongly support. The question is one of establishing a body that would also include the countries of East Europe. It would be a council that would be able to resolve and examine political, economic, and military issues concerning our region.

I think that the proposal merits the same degree of support as French President Francois Mitterrand's project concerning the establishment of a European confederation. Both these proposals aim to draw the countries of East Europe into a Europe that is uniting as a whole from the very outset. The point is that the two parts of Europe should not, paradoxically, develop separately on the path leading to integration.

[Kolodziejczyk] What practical steps would you take to gradually close the gap that does nevertheless exist?

[Lafontaine] It cannot, of course, be closed overnight. However, there is a point at which something has to be done to provide a clear and important sign that from now on we are also looking for cooperation and integration on the level of all the European states. I think that even if the first meeting were to begin with talks and mutual consultations, I think that it would be better than doing nothing and keeping our distance from each other.

[Kolodziejczyk] How do you view the political and economic situation in Poland?

[Lafontaine] What I admire above all is the great, democratic awakening of the Poles. I know what led to it, and I know what role "Solidarity" performed in that process. I also admire the present government, which has scored notable successes in many areas. I would also mention the government's resolve and the consistent manner in which it is seeking to restructure the Polish economy.

[Kolodziejczyk] What is the first thing that you would do to promote reconciliation between the Poles and the Germans?

[Lafontaine] I think that I would get people to meet each other, because that is the essence of mutual understanding. Youth exchanges are important, and I think that they should be stepped up. I propose expanding ties between individual towns and places. Cultural exchanges are different, because they teach us to understand the differences that exist, and that is one of the most important things that we must accomplish in the near future.

Epplemann Comments on Future of Armed Forces

LD1204172590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1435 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—No NATO soldier will set foot on present GDR territory between the Oder and the Elbe in a united Germany. Rainer Eppelmann, minister for disarmament and defense, stated this today to journalists during a break in the People's Chamber session. He was thereby referring to the government view that the

united Germany should be a member of NATO until the creation of an all-European security system, provided that NATO strategies presently valid are abandoned. Eppelmann said further that as long as there are at least two military alliances in Europe then, in all probability, two German armies will exist.

In response to the question about a reduction of the National People's Army to between 70,000 and 120,000 men, Rainer Eppelmann replied that he wants first of all to familiarize himself with all concepts. In favor of a professional army is the fact that only those who want to join the army will have to, "and the others will no longer need to". There were, however, a whole string of reasons in favor of keeping compulsory military service. Among these was the viewpoint of state policy that the citizen of the country "also benefits with regard to his attitude to society if he feels responsible for once in his life, for a limited period, for the external security of the society in which he lives and in which he would like to live". With a ratio between conscripts and professional soldiers of one to one, one-half of the military personnel will be exchanged every 12 or 15 months. Compulsory military service sees to it that "a tie to the citizens" is present in an army. Eppelmann recalled the Reichswehr and other professional armies which contained the danger of being "a state within a state". "Which of us wants that", the minister said.

In his future work as minister, disarmament will have priority. His predecessor, Admiral Theodore Hoffmann, did very good preliminary work concerning, for example, the concepts of conversion. He also knew that there were "similar matters" in the Bundeswehr. For example, the chairman of the Bundestag Defense Commission signalled to him during his stay in the GDR that he will readily make available theoretical and practical thoughts on this topic.

Changed Structure of Military Blocs Viewed

AU1104224290 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 9 Apr 90 p 1

[Christa Schaffmann commentary: "The Formula Is Lost"]

[Text] What would happen if mankind were to lose the formulas for the production of any type of antibiotics? —A crazy question? Not quite, I think, because we have just lost a similarly important formula, while a substitute one has not yet been found. I am talking of the formula for peace and security in Europe, which was based on the existence of two German states, the balance between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, defined spheres of power, and potentials of nuclear weapons paralyzing any belligerence on both sides in the past.

This formula served its purpose for 40 years and now the equation is no longer correct, individual elements formed unforeseen combinations, while others are subject to erosion; the balance is disturbed.

The great alchemists of our days, the politicians, are now looking for new solutions. No expenses are spared, the two superpowers—the United States and the Soviet Union—and smaller Germany, which nevertheless is rather powerful, send their most capable thinkers into the race. However, in the past few years all of them learned above all to negotiate between blocs and to change apparently hopeless contradictions into acceptable compromises.

This time everything is completely different. The blocs no longer exist in their previous forms, and nobody knows yet what they will be like. The conceivable danger does not come from the direction on which each of the parties concentrated before. People in general are uncertain where it might come from.

The task of Mikhail Gorbachev and George Bush at their summit on 30 May is difficult. Neither they nor anybody else are to be expected to soon find a formula, which will be available for another 40 years. The constant factor, the Soviet Union, as such can no longer be included in an equation; nationalist feelings, which can act as a catalyst of uncontrollable explosions, were aroused in East Europe; and in the middle of it there is Germany, which first has to redefine its place in the world. Formulas are no longer sufficient as the time of a new order of elements has come. A turbulent future lies ahead of us.

Ministry Announces Death of Former Chief

LD1204034690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1714 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The former GDR minister for construction industry, Wolfgang Junker, died on Monday at the age of 61. This was announced in Berlin today. The Ministry for Construction Industry, his workplace of many years, did not give ADN any further information about the circumstances of his sudden death.

Junker was appointed minister for construction industry in 1963. After the Stoph government's resignation in November of last year he was relieved of his post.

In connection with preliminary preceedings for criminal disloyalty, a warrant for Junker's arrest was issued at the end of January 1990. He was released from custody a month later as, according to the prosecutor general press bureau, there was no danger of suppression of evidence and no evidence of a planned escape. The decision to release him was also made with regard to the deterioration of the accused's state of health.

Session of League of Free Democrats-Liberals

AU1104135690 East Berlin DER MORGEN in German 5 Apr 90 p 1

["Press Release: Solid Center for Reason"]

[Text] On 4 April, the working Presidium of the League of Free Democrats-Liberals met for its first joint session

in Berlin. The Presidium noted that the renaming and opening up of the former LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] and the cooperative accession of the former NDPD [National Democratic Party of Germany] to a new party has been received with approval by the large majority of the members. In this way, a united and strong liberal force of the center has developed, which is open to all who feel committed to the ideas of liberalism. The first experiences of joint work are assessed as very positive. In this way, party congress decisions are implemented and thus, demands of the grass roots for unified action in order to credibly represent and enforce liberal positions are also met.

The central task now, the Presidium stressed, is to have a knowledgeable leadership of the election campaign at the local level, a leadership which is aware of the problems and is thus effective. Principles of the preparations for the elections were discussed. The goal is to ensure seats and votes in all local parliaments to knowledgeable representatives of the Liberals, who enjoy the citizens' trust. "A solid center—so that reason reigns" was decided as the central election slogan of the party.

The party Presidium advocated the speedy establishment of a broad government coalition and the constitution of a joint People's Chamber group of the Liberals, to which the 23 deputies of the League of Free Democrats, the German Forum party, and the GDR's Free Democratic Party belong.

As regards the establishment of the monetary union, the League of Free Democrats will not accept any other rate than 1:1 for the conversion of savings, pensions, wages, and salaries, it was stressed.

Farmers Demonstrate in Front of People's Chamber

LD1204094290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0841 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—Farmers demonstrated by means of tractors, trucks, and agricultural machinery on Thursday morning in Berlin in front of the People's Chamber building, for their demands of a regulated sale of their agricultural products and for security of private and cooperative ownership of land. They are demanding a "green border" as a protective measure in the transition to EC agriculture and the settlement of debts which have arisen as a result of false agricultural policy. [passage omitted]

New FRG-GDR Border Checkpoint Planned, Opened

AU1104221490 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 7 Apr 90 p 2

[ADN report: "New GDR-FRG Border Checkpoints as of Easter"]

[Text] East Berlin—In order to facilitate traffic between the GDR and the FRG and West Berlin, another 14 border checkpoints will be established by Easter. As the press office of the GDR Transportation Ministry announced on Thursday [5 April], as of 12 April pedestrians may use the checkpoints in Adelhausen (Suhl Bezirk)-Rodach, Osterode (Magdeburg Bezirk)-Hornburg, Ohrsleben (Magdeburg Bezirk)-Soellingen, and Grossziethen (Potsdam Bezirk) at Rodower Chaussee. In addition, there will be a checkpoint for pedestrians and private cars in Sommersdorf (Magdeburg Bezirk)-Buddenstedt. Wartha (Erfurt Bezirk) will get a second checkpoint for pedestrians, private cars, and buses on the former F7a in the direction of Herleshausen. In Utech and Zweedorf (both Schwerin Bezirk) the border to Tueschenbeck and Dalldorf, respectively, is open to pedestrians; after Easter the Zweedorf-Dalldorf checkpoint will be open only from Fridays, 1400, to Mondays, 1000, and on holidays.

As of 12 April, there will be new connections in Berlin on Elsenstrasse in Treptow and in the Mitte city district at Schillingbruecke (in continuation of Andreasstrasse). Already as of 7 April Brunnenstrasse in the Mitte District is open to pedestrians and private cars; Kopenhagener Strasse in Wilhemsruh is open to pedestrians, private cars, and buses.

Already one day early pedestrians may use the checkpoints at Mahlow Waldblick and Grossziethen (both Potsdam Beizrk) to Beethovenstrasse and Lichtenrader Strasse, respectively.

Television Advertising To Begin 17 Apr

LD1104164990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1359 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—On 17 April, German Television will broadcast its first advertisements. This was announced by Hans Klennert, director of Telecommerz GmbH i.G. at the television station, at a press conference in Berlin today. Thirty minutes of advertising time per day and channel are planned. Unlike the FRG's television, which is under public law, advertisements will also be broadcast on Sundays and after 2000. According to the information given by the director, five advertising blocks of three to seven minutes' length will be broadcast between 1845 and 2200. They will stand out clearly from the other program.

According to Klennert, the Paris company of Information et Publicite (IP), with whom a marketing contract has been signed, guarantees a revenue of 40 million Deutschmarks for this year and of 100 million Deutschmarks for 1991. This money will be urgently needed to secure the survival of the television station. At first, priority will be given to technical modernization and the purchase of films.

The advertisements are filmed in Frankfurt/Main. But German television will have the final decision whether to broadcast them. It was affirmed that the media control council's concept, which is part of the contract

with IP, will be strictly adhered to. The German television personnel council will have a say, too.

New Berlin Economic Weekly To Be Published

AU1104202990 East Berlin BERLINER ALLGEMEINE in German 5 Apr 90 p 5

[Text] Under the title DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG [German Economic Newspaper] a new weekly is now being published in Berlin with a start print run of 100,000 copies. At first, it will be 16 pages thick. Its goal is to support and accompany the development of a new economy in the GDR as well as in other East European countries. DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG is in particular aiming at the people in the GDR who want to actively participate in the new economic life, which is characterized by the market economy. The existing economic publications from the FRG insufficiently cover their specific, topical need for information. In addition to focusing on reports on the GDR, the new paper will also brief its readers on all important economic developments in East Europe. This is a result of the traditional economic contacts between the GDR and the East European countries and the Soviet Union.

The target groups of DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG are managers and self-employed people in business, administration, and the political sphere in the GDR. Of course, they also include those who want to open up independent businesses in the future. The newspaper is published by a newly founded publishing house in East Berlin and is completely independent in economic and publishing terms from existing publishing houses of magazines and newspapers. In Berlin and in the GDR it will be available for 1.80 GDR marks/Deutsche marks at the kiosks and via subscription; in the FRG it will be available only via subscription.

Brueckner Elected Red Cross President

AU1104205090 East Berlin DER MORGEN in German 9 Apr 90 p 1

[ADN/DM report: "New German Red Cross Chief"]

[Text] Berlin (ADN/DM)—Prof. Dr. Christoph Brueckner (67), former chairman of the People's Chamber Health Committee and director of the Industrial Medicine Institute of the Jena Friedrich-Schiller University, was elected new president of the German Red Cross of the GDR.

The preliminary statutes will basically change the structures of the German Red Cross of the GDR.

No New Government Before Mid-May

LD1304133490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1200 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] The new government will be formed in the middle of May, at the earliest. This has been announced at the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] news conference.

It also was said that the MDF national rally has authorized the Presidium to hold negotiations about the forming of a government. At the same time, there had been no negotiation about personnel matters, not even about the ministries the MDF will claim in the new government.

Nemeth on Election Results, Future Activity

AU1304095590 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 11 Apr 90 p 1

[Report on interview with Premier Miklos Nemeth, by unidentified MAGYAR HIRLAP correspondent; in Parliament on 10 April: "Miklos Nemeth Considers Himself An Independent Deputy—The Distribution of Mandates Could Still Change"]

[Text] I am an independent deputy—Miklos Nemeth stressed when our correspondent asked him whether he will be calmer and more rested when he takes up his new position somewhere in the left wing of the new Parliament, as opposed to the ministerial seat. Our correspondent interviewed Miklos Nemeth following the session of the National Election Committee held on 10 April.

[MAGYAR HIRLAP] What is your opinion about the participation of state administration in carrying out the parliamentary elections?

[Nemeth] Every elected person and volunteer deserves praise. This has been great work, and only those who participated in this activity are really aware of this, particularly if we regard the complex electoral law we had to implement and the obsolete infrastructure in which the elections took place.

[MAGYAR HIRLAP] Did the Interior Ministry-State Demographic Office debate cause you any trouble?

[Nemeth] Neither of these bodies, nor the National Election Committee regarded my actions as interference, but rather as helpful and progressive.

[MAGYAR HIRLAP] You are a deputy already, and you will not sit in the first armchairs in the Parliament, but somewhere in the left wing. Will you be calmer and more rested there?

[Nemeth] The word "left" could be misinterpreted. I am an independent deputy. Naturally, in the future, my situation will be different as I will no longer have such a huge responsibility. However, my responsibility toward the nation will remain also as a "simple" parliamentary deputy.

National Democratic Forum Conference Begins

LD1204165690 Budapest MTI in English 1100 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (MTI)—The third national conference of the Hungarian Democratic Forum (HDF) [MDF] started in the culture house of the Hungarian optical works, Budapest, on Thursday, with an opening speech by Jozsef Antall, party president.

The meeting is being attended by about 1,000 delegates from the HDF's more than 400 regional organisations.

The conference is due to spell out the tasks ahead, and to authorise the party presidium to hold discussions on a possible government coalition after reaching a related decision.

The agenda of the discussions also includes an amendment to the party statutes, and defining the place of the HDF's group of MPs within the party itself.

The conference started with Vice-President Sandor Lezsak's account of the experience gained from the elections, and this is to be followed by an assessment of the current political situation by Mr Antall.

Approves Coalition Talks

LD1204170290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] Zoltan Sipos reports from the MDF [Hungarian Democratic Forum] meeting:

[Sipos] By acclamation the third national meeting of the Hungarian Democratic Forum gave its approval and authorized the party's presidium to conduct coalition discussions on the basis of the former agreement with the Independent Smallholders' Party and the Christian Democratic People's Party, thereby strengthening with the aforementioned two parties the government majority.

The MDF is a calm force, and now it is a calm winner, says the new slogan. This means winning in the elections and not breaking through the tape, it was said. That is the party closed its election campaign; yet with the same intensity, it is conducting further preparations; in this case however for forming a government and for local elections. At the same time, in the interest of promoting the process, it is offering an olive branch to all of its election rivals.

At today's party meeting, the mandate-examining committee was formed, and party chairman Jozsef Antall outlined the work schedule of the coming months. The day for convening parliament was set for 2 May.

Antall Addresses Conference

LD1204210890 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] At the third national congress of the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF], the Presidium has been authorized to begin coalition talks with the parties in the election alliance. There was no discussion now of personnel issues. The national congress will continue only in mid-May, after the new government is formed.

The MDF, the Independent Smallholders' Party and the Christian Democratic People's Party can set forth in the direction of a government alliance, Jozsef Antall said when summarizing the tasks ahead. It will be a parliament, he said, which is built on a healthy bipolar system, and where the opposition has a real chance of governing. The parties which have got into parliament, albeit in a different distribution of roles, must jointly form that which will link this country to Europe.

When evaluating the MDF's changed constitutional situation, Jozsef Antall underlined that the responsibility of government also means that it is necessary to form a political public life where there is debate sometimes between rivals, but never between enemies. The party chairman asked the civil service employees not to flee from their offices, since it is not possible, nor do they want, to begin again with amateurs. To be sure there will be personnel changes, he said, but the scope and depth of these cannot be determined at the moment. What is certain is that the primary viewpoint will be professional expertise.

The new government is counting on proper cooperation, alongside the civil servants, with the Army and the police. In the economy, as well, it feels that basic changes are necessary. He emphasized that is is necessary to join the Common Market as quickly as possible. For this, of course, considerable external support is necessary, but as he said, if we, ourselves, do not set forth, will we wait for a whistle from abroad in vain.

Defense Ministry on Debrecen, USSR Claim

LD1204221590 Budapest MTI in English 1635 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (MTI)—A retired army general announced in Kossuth Radio's 12 o'clock news service on Thursday that he held documents to prove that Debrecen Airport had been built on Hungarian Defence Ministry funds, which means that the compensation claims of the Soviets Army Group leaving were groundless.

Colonel Gyorgy Keleti, spokesman for the Defence Ministry, said in connection with the announcement:

Last week, an interdepartmental committee was set up, headed by Brigadier General Antal Annus, government commissioner, to look after tasks connected with the Soviet troops withdrawal and make arrangements for the final financial settlement.

The committee does not exclude the possibility—especially in respect to the pre-1956 period—that individuals are in possession of documents which could provide assistance to asserting the interests of the Republic of Hungary. Therefore, they wish to appeal to citizens owning documents of potential assistance to the committee's work to come forward.

Deputy Minister Warns of Minority Tensions

LD1204142190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Central East Europe could turn into one of the most dangerous areas of tension in the world, if the situation of the national minorities living there is not sorted out, Csaba Tabajdi, deputy minister, has said. He spoke at a roundtable consultation in Moscow, which, along with Soviet experts, was attended by Romanian and Austrian guests. At the conference it was felt the region is unable on its own to handle its nationality problems. For this reason, it is expedient to make use of the support of the UN and other international forums.

Slovak Minority in Hungary Warns of Extinction

LD1204120790 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 0500 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] The Czechoslovak and Hungarian presidents, Vaclav Havel and Matyas Szuros, agreed Monday at Bratislava Castle that a joint working commission will as soon as possible draft a declaration on solving nationalities questions. It should represent a new view of this sensitive problem which would not be burdened by the past. According to the president's ideas, the declaration and the follow-up way of tackling nationalities questions of both Hungarians in Slovakia and the 100,000-strong Slovak minority in Hungary, should be exemplary also for other countries. But this common problem of ours is, indeed, ripe for solving as is confirmed by the letter of the Democratic Federation of Slovaks in Hungary. Tomas Borec, our Budapest correspondent, telephoned this report:

[Borec] The Slovaks living in Hungary have appealed in an open letter to the Government of the Republic of Hungary, to political parties, and to all citizens through their federation and local organizations. In it they point out that the Slovak national minority is in danger of total extinction. According to the population census, the number of Hungarian citizens with Slovak mother tongue was reduced by 50 percent between 1960-80 and the latest data are even more alarming.

The majority of their requests and petitions asking, among other things, for the construction of a network of schools and for Slovak newspapers, have not been answered. Since only special and effective steps can be of

assistance in our situation, the open letter goes on to say, we ask the Government of the Republic of Hungary to take these steps.

The letter from the Democratic Federation of Slovaks in Hungary also appealed to political parties and asked them to include in the policies the solving of nationality minority problems and to start in this spirit their work in the new period of parliamentary democracy in Hungary.

Slovak Official Comments on Magyar Minority

LD1104225590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] The Magyar minority in Slovakia is struggling with considerable problems. Evelyn Forro has interviewed Gabor Zaszlos, deputy speaker of the Slovak parliament, on this:

[Begin recording] [Forro] What is your opinion concerning the increasingly strong anti-Magyar tone in Slovakia?

[Zaszlos] I perhaps could describe the voices which we heard last Friday [6 April] from the demonstrating crowd which marched in front of parliament as being, rather, the voice of the street which will not play a substantive role in decisionmaking. I am thinking here in the broader sense of political decisionmaking, the democratization process, which will not be influenced by this. No significant political force can be attributed to these voices at the moment.

[Forro] We have noticed recently that an effort of a kind has begun in the Slovak Government and in the Slovak parliament, so that the rights of the Magyars are taken into account. Yet this is scarcely adequate. What is your judgment of this?

[Zaszlos] Our efforts consisted of the fact that after the government session in Komarno on 5 March, the government adopted a specific draft measure. This concerns legislation, culture, the school issue, the economy—the most sensitive point is the schools issue. It is trying to resolve this through the Education Ministry. Our endeavor and objective are that, with due regard to the fact that now there will be party battles, and [word indistinct] on the atmosphere of the streets, that within the framework of parliament a committee should be created which would be independent of the parties' statements and programs, and this parliamentary committee would review or judge as soon as possible the shortcomings that may appear here in nationality policy. [end recording]

Horn Addresses Latin America-East Europe Meeting

LD1204213290 Budapest MTI in English 1055 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (MTI)—The one-day conference of the seven Latin American countries belonging to the Rio Group, as well as seven central and East European states, was opened in Budapest on Thursday by Gyula Horn, Hungarian foreign minister.

The Rio group includes the foreign ministers of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela, and the foreign state secretary of Peru, while the other side of the table is occupied by the foreign ministers of Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria and Romania, and the deputy foreign ministers of the USSR, Czechoslovakia and the GDR.

In his opening speech, Mr Horn said:

"In line with preliminary consultations, participants will provide information on the situation in their countries, and the changes taking place in the two regions, and also hod a debate over future cooperation prospects.

"This, the first such conference to be held between Latin American and East European countries, is all the more timely because it is being attended by representatives of the two regions of the world in which far-reaching changes are now taking place.

"There's a lot of similarity between the two regions: Democracy has started to unfold in the countries of both regions," Mr Horn continued.

"Both regions intend catching up with the developed world and replacing former unilateral superpower dependence with multilateral cooperation forms."

Cooperation between the two regions is vital for Hungary, Mr Horn said, including the creation of close relations with non-European countries as well.

Exploring various new forms of cooperation is of common interest, including the fight against terrorism, drug trafficking and environmental pollution.

Following his opening speech, Mr Horn held an informal exchange with participants at the conference

The seven Latin American foreign ministers met with foreign ministers of the EEC in Dublin on Tuesday.

It is probable that the practice of these foreign ministerial consultations, stretching back many years, will now be followed by meetings with central and East European countries as well.

Meeting Issues Communique

LD1204213590 Budapest MTI in English 1725 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Joint communique on foreign ministerial meeting"—MTI headline]

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (MTI)—The meeting of the foreign ministers of Central and East European countries with the Rio Group countries took place in Budapest on April 12, 1990.

The diplomats held an exchange of views on the situation in the countries and regions they represented and described their positions on the relations between Central and East European countries and Latin America in the mirror of worldwide changes.

During the conference, the ministers mentioned recent developments in their countries and regions, emphasizing the process of democratization, political transformation and economic opening.

All the participants were unanimous in their interest in developing political, economic, cultural, scientific and technological links between the two regions. A number of proposals were raised on the former issue, to be examined later.

The participants stated that this first meeting of this kind in the history of relations between the two regional groups bore great significance in establishing multilateral and constructive dialogue, which could promote mutually advantageous cooperation.

The sides agreed that the meeting was an integral part of the universal process aimed at stepping up and democratizing international relations.

Agreeing on the usefulness of the dialogue, the sides decided to make it regular. The date of the next meeting will be coordinated later, through diplomatic channels.

Ministers Hold News Conference

LD1204221890 Budapest MTI in English 2017 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (MTI)—At the press conference held in Budapest, the Rio Group foreign ministers, comprising seven Latin-American countries, spoke in tones of satisfaction on their conference with seven Central and East European countries on the prospects of cooperation between the two regions.

The conference drew to an end with passing a joint communique.

On behalf Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezela, the Venezuelan Foreign Minister Reinaldo Figueredo Planchart said the Rio Group felt the conference was more successful than expected. It signified the beginning of a dialogue between the countries involved, with the final aim of setting up institutionalized relations between the two regions, added Jose Francisco Rezek, foreign minister of Brazil.

On behalf Hungary and the invited European countries, such as Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the GDR, Romania and the Soviet Union, Gyula Horn also stressed the possibility of reinforcing relations, given the political intention of each participant. The Hungarian foreign minister feels both regions are unanimous in their endeavours for democratic transformation, setting up a market economy and national independence.

In his contribution to the conference, Mr Horn pointed out that Hungary saw in the democratic governments of Latin America an ally in the fight for broadening the scope of movement of small and medium-size countries.

He said Hungary was ready to seek further contacts with Inter-American and Latin American regional organizations. His position also showed Hungary's readiness to obtain an observer's status at the Organization of American States.

Mr Horn pointed out that Hungary attributed distinguished importance to economic and trade cooperation, as the primary source of stabilizing relations in the long run.

Hungary would welcome a growing Latin American capital involvement, mostly in the field of industrial cooperation.

In the evening, Matyas Szuros, interim president of the Republic, gave a reception in parliament in honour of the delegates. In his toast, he stressed the significance of the first multilateral conference of its kind.

Thai Deputy Premier Visits, Meets Nemeth

LD1204203990 Budapest MTI in English 1522 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest April 12 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth met Phong Sarasin, Thai deputy prime minister, in the parliament building on Thursday.

Mr Nemeth expressed the conviction that the new Hungarian Government would invariably pursue a policy of opening towards the world economy, and promote the development of cooperation with the East Asian countries on the basis of equal conditions. The Hungarian prime minister proposed improving the conditions of travel between the two countries, including the abolition of visas.

Mr Sarasin stressed the importance of personal contacts. The Thai Government, he said, would particularly encourage an approach between the representatives of the private sector. He added that this year Thailand would make its first appearance in the Budapest International Fair.

On Thursday, the Thai deputy premier visited the Ikarus bus factory.

The Thai delegation left Hungary on Thursday.

Korean Bank to Loan Hungary $40 Million

LD1204205290 Budapest MTI in English 1418 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (MTI-ECONEWS)—A consortium of 15 South Korean banks is granting a forty-million-dollar syndicated loan to the National Bank of Hungary. Lead manager is the Korean Development Bank (KDB).

The agreement was signed in Seoul today.

The maturity of the credit is eight years with a five-year grace period.

This is the second loan the KDB has managed to Hungary: The first 125-million-dollar credit was extended to Hungary in December, 1988.

New Border-Crossing Regulations Issued

LD1304135190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Correspondent Eva Soos report from Border Guard National Command news conference]

[Excerpt] [Soos] [passage omitted] As Dr. Gyorgy Bakodi, a lieutenant colonel, said, in the present situation it is no longer correction that is the task, but owing to the legal, social, and political changes, a change of regime is needed in border traffic, too.

The most important principle of the new concept is the creation of the necessary security, and what is more, primarily on the basis of trust. At the same time, this means also that in the future the Border Guard will check only those passengers arriving in Hungary and not those traveling out. This regulation takes effect beginning 1 May under the official title: selective route procedure [szelektive utkezeles]. Accordingly, the passengers arriving will be distinguished on the basis of three considerations: Hungarians arriving back, passengers who do not have to have a visa, and passengers to whom the visa requirement applies.

Regarding Hungarian citizens, only the validity and authenticity of the passport is examined and there will be no stamping into it in the future. Travelers without a visa or with one into the country are checked only on entry and not when they leave. Those participating in small border traffic [kishatar forgalom] will not be checked on either on entry or departure. Stamping remains the only respect of traveling to Czechoslovakia, but only until the modification of the bilateral agreement.

New Deputies Force Provincial Editor To Resign

LD1304023490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Summary] Under pressure from the newly elected local deputies, the directing editor-in-chief of the BEKES MEGYEI NEPUJSAQ [COUNTY BEKES PEOPLE'S NEWSPAPER] has resigned. Beforehand, the 10 parliamentary deputies from the county had issued a statement saying that they did not want to make use of the newspaper's facilities as long as it was headed by (Zoltan Arpasi), who was appointed by the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party.

New National Newspaper Due For Publication

LD1204200190 Budapest MTI in English 1137 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (MTI)—A new newspaper is to be published in the capital on Saturday, called "REGGELI PESTI HIRLAP" (Morning Pest Journal), which will be the seventh national daily in Hungary to deal with political, economic, public life and culture.

The new daily was to be launched on March 15, the country's national day, but had to be deferred owing to a financial dispute betwen the publishers and the printing house.

The new 24-page daily will be independent from parties, and will be printed in 50,000 copies. Its founders are planning to publish the evening "PESTI HIRLAP" as well, at a later stage.

Walesa: 'I Do Not Want To Be a President'

LD1204192890 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Lech Walesa held his last new conference before Solidarity's Second Congress. The work force from the mechanical enterprise Zamech in Elblag hosted the conference. Many questions reflected the issue of the solidarity leader's possible candidacy for the presidency. Lech Walesa explained: I do not want to be a president. Today I am the freest man, and the president is the greatest captive. I only say things because I am not satisfied with the progress of reform. However, I do not rule out, Walesa said, having to [run for president]. Today, the president should be the busiest man, help the premier, listen to the masses, help democracy, and not allow himself to be deceived.

Walesa Has 'Not Taken a Decision' on Presidency

LD1304013390 Warsaw PAP in English 2359 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 12—Tonight Lech Walesa was the guest of the "Interpelacje" (deputies' questions) TV programme. He answered questions from the Gdansk TV studio. Following are some opinions voiced by the chairman of the NSZZ [Independent Self Governing Trade Union] "Solidarnosc" during the broadcast:

Presidency

"I have not taken a decision on running for president. But sometimes I have to provoke a discussion. I think that our reforms which are going in the right direction and our great victories do not yield big results. I have raised the slogan 'president' to speed up the reforms," Walesa said.

Against New Nomenklatura

"I am afraid of monopoly. Those who have now made their way to high positions are idealists. But similar idealists were the communist in the beginning. The next ones were not and now the next ones will not be the same. Until I have something to say, I will not let a new nomeklatura to create itself. We have to build structures which will defend themselves against improper men. Should 'Solidarnosc' lose to the new political forces then glory to her. But not to the old nomenklatura.

"If all this goes slowly, if stock companies and dodgers are rampant, then a social upheaval is possible, even against Lech Walesa. I want to avoid the explosion. Today is the greatest in 5 years chance to do something for Poland," Walesa concluded.

Further From Walesa on Presidency, Reforms

LD1304014390 Warsaw PAP in English 0015 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Gdansk, April 12—Lech Walesa held his weekly press conference attended by workers, the last one before the 2nd Solidarity Congress, in the northern town of Elblag today. He was hosted by the crew of the "Zamech" mechanical works.

Presidency issue

Asked about the issue of his running for the presidential office, Lech Walesa explained:

I really do not want to be president. I am the most free man in the world. And a president is the most subjugated one, in every country. I provoke the problem through my meddling with it because I want the running for president to be a fair play, (I want) there were the greatest number of arguments, (I want) it to be a decent man. That does not rule out I will have (to run).

Walesa declined an answer whom he would see as president. But in reply to a journalist's question he outlined the profile of a head of state.

Today, in the first term of office, he said, a president has to be the most hard-working man and it would be best if he took no money as the treasury is empty.

(He has) not to play, not to speak foreign languages, but to help the premier, the government, to catch thieves, embezzlers at once, to react promptly and concentrate all forces to listen to the masses, to help them overcome difficulties in the most tolerable way. (He has) to help move the Polish vessel to normality, Walesa stated.

Today needed is a president who helps democracy promptly, firmly, but also who will not permit to bully, cheat (people), to dodge, the Solidarity leader opined.

The discussion on Presidency ended in voting. Walesa asked who from the people present in the hall would vote for him if he ran for president and who against. There were only four votes against Walesa's candidature to president, with a firm majority of those present raising their hands in support of Walesa.

Direction and Pace of Reforms

Asked about what he is concerned most in the progress of Polish reforms, Walesa said:

Those who observe our government and parliament admit that the direction and pace of reforms are fairly good. Neither do I have any claims, but I put forward a proposal on special powers for the government, or decrees long ago. Let the parliament make laws, and let the government rule. But if it sees something wrong it has to react at once.

Walesa confirmed that he had met Premier Mazowiecki and a group of parliamentarians last weekend. He

refused however to disclose the subject of the talks without consultation with the sides concerned. He only said that it had been a meeting to sort things out.

Solidarity Before Congress

As the congress approaches, numerous questions concerned trade union issues, Solidarity identity.

Walesa confirmed that he will run for the leader's post. Asked about his fears of rivals he said:

I am afraid of nobody. I fear only God. Let effects, and not demagogy speak for us. Nobody achieved more than us, than me.

He also opted for puryfing the Solidarity from political activity admitting however that they cannot separate the union from it for a time being.

I do not want the union to be the government's subsidiary, Walesa stated. I will fight to put it into the right road of protection (of workers).

Economic Reforms

Walesa persuaded workers to be more active, to depart from defensive attitudes rooted in Poles.

He also recalled the need to promptly adjust Polish economy to the world one, to open it up to cooperation with abroad but also to take precautions to make contacts profitable for both sides.

Walesa appealed for an active struggle against unemployment which, according to him, should not take place in Poland. There is so much to be done in Poland, he stressed, that it is sufficient to organize everything in another way and then there will be work for all.

Warning Against Solidarity Monopoly

While encouraging an active participation in the electoral campaign to local self-government, Lech Walesa warned against the Solidarity monopoly.

A pluralistic chance must be given to wise people, he said, as it would be fatal if Walesa's monopoly won. The more Solidarity loses to new forces in the election, the better. Let us build structures which will control and say openly they are watching to take over power, Walesa stated.

Paper Cites Opinions on Walesa Presidency

LD1204173490 Warsaw PAP in English 2000 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 12—"As a result of my announcement, I probably will not become president," Lech Walesa told journalists on April 11 after a meeting with Czechoslovak Vice-Premier Jan Czarnogurski. "For me the fact is that I want to help Poland in its reforms but not to take over power," the GAZETA WYBORCZA paper quoted Walesa as saying.

Next the paper wrote: "Supporters of Walesa's running for president point to his charisma, political talent and concept of changes in Poland: acceleration of the process of democratization, the breaking of the monopoly of solidarity, partially depriving the Balcerowicz plan of its radical character."

"His opponents are afraid of his concept of presidency: strong authoritarian power, competetive in relation to the government, and also political irresponsibility and populist tendencies.

GAZETA WYBORCZA also asked representatives of opinion-making circles to voice their opinions on the candidacy of Walesa. Here are some voices backing the Solidarity leader: —"He is the only candidate for the office of the president of the Polish Republic because of his charismatic influence on society and because of general support given to him by various political forces."

—"As president, he might accelerate the process of democratization, especially personnel revolution (the removal of Nomenklatura). To put it emphatically, Walesa is the only man who might liquidate the round table set-up, which is not up-to-date any more but which is respected, and remove ministers-communists."

—"He would start strivings for an early withdrawal of Soviet troops from Poland."

—"The replacement of Jaruzelski by Walesa is a chance to change current attitudes towards the function of president both in Poland and in the West."

The paper also quoted some voices speaking against Walesa: —"Unlike Jauzelski, he would like to be a strong president, dictate his terms to the government."

—"There is a better candidate who—as he has already proved—fulfills all possible expectations as to the office of president: Tadeusz Mazowiecki."

—"He is a born people's tribune. In economically difficult times this might lead to President Walesa's inciting populist demands."

—"In the event of social disturbances Walesa, an irresponsible politician, might use force within his presidential powers."

—"The line he represents in international relations is not responsible: uncontrolled attraction of Western money, calls for a prompt withdrawal of Soviet troops and an extreme example—statements on the German issue."

—"He has been recently losing popularity in public opinion as well as in political elites. His decision to run is an attempt at politically saving face—it is a desperate move, which does not augur well."

—"He lacks solidity, patience and responsibility for his words, qualities indispensable in a statesman, especially in international relations. What was the strength of a working class leader might discredit a president."

Walesa Meets Farmers' Solidarity Chief

LD1004202890 Warsaw PAP in English 1834 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Gdansk, April 10—Solidarity leader Lech Walesa met today with head of the private Farmers' Solidarity Gabriel Janowski to discuss the condition of Polish agriculture.

They spoke about the necessity for society at large to participate in the crucial political and economic processes. Janowski presented the reasons of disquiet in the countryside, the fall of agricultural production affecting the supply of food to urban areas for one.

Walesa stated that the forthcoming elections to local governments would give an effective impact to reforms.

Both men acknowledged the need to continue trade union cooperation with a view to arriving at a joint approach to Polish problems. They also agreed that farming offered a chance for Poland and that is why it required a special approach within the economic policy.

After the meeting Walesa said: "I am optimistic. If the condition of agriculture is so poor today, it can only improve. Polish peasants must at last start to attack and to invest. Poland's economic situation needs all social groups to carry the burden of reforms."

At a meeting with members of the Solidarity National Executive Commission, Janowski appealed for understanding of problems of agriculture.

Walesa, Interior Vice Minister Discuss Police

LD1104215990 Warsaw PAP in English 2031 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Gdansk, April 11—Chairman of the NSZZ [Independent Self-Governing Trade Union], "Solidarnosc" Lech Walesa met with Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs Krzysztof Kozlowski here today.

The talk concerned the key issues connected with the reform of the ministry and creation of the new police.

"I will not do it myself alone without the help of 'Solidarnosc', you and the church," Kozlowski said. "I want to create a really professional police. Show me the men, the new cadre. There must be such men that we need—able, honest policemen."

Solidarity Congress To Begin on 19 Apr

LD1204173490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1600 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Solidarity's second national congress will begin in the Olivia Hall on 19 April, it was announced at a news conference in Gdansk. The debate by 487 delegates will last six days. The trade unionists have invited 300 guests, people connected with Solidarity. Premier Mazowiecki and the Sejm and Senate speakers will be guests of honor. The congress wil cost approximately 1.5 billion zlotys. This will be allocated from the union's coffers and from a subsidy from the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

The most heated discussion is expected to be about the creation of a political party from a (?section) of Solidarity, the attitude to unemployment, and the relation between the trade union and the government.

Jaruzelski Appeals for 22 July Holiday

AU1104222090 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 7-8 Apr 90 p 3

[Undated letter from President Wojciech Jaruzelski to Sejm Marshal Mikolaj Kozakiewicz]

[Text] I have acquainted myself with the draft laws on national holidays. I would like to present my own point of view.

I warmly support the idea of reinstating 3 May as a national holiday. The patriotic content of that day, especially the everlasting memory of our first constitution that has been kept alive through many generations, fully justifies the recognition of this day as a symbol that unites the hearts and minds of all Poles.

At the same time, I wish to stress that this need has always existed. The church has been expressing it. The official stance toward 3 May has also altered. Let me remind you that on every single 3 May in recent years, there has been a ceremony at Warsaw's Castle Square attended by the highest state authorities.

Also, it is extremely important to uphold the previous Sejm's decision to recognize 11 November as a national and state holiday, as it refers to the patriotic and military traditions of the Second Republic.

However, I consider it wrong to abolish 22 July from the list of national holidays.

That day is one of the symbols of lasting significance in the complicated history of our nation and state. It is connected with the declaration of the Manifesto of the Polish Committee for National Liberation. This Manifesto referred to long, democratic traditions, including the progressive currents of political and social thought of the interwar years. In particular, the Manifesto embodies the aspirations of many generations of Polish peasants. It satisfied their eternal hunger for their own soil.

I also wish to emphasize that today's western border cannot be isolated from the July Manifesto. This was the first state document ever to formulate this fundamental and vital Polish issue.

The expulsion of the Hitlerite invader from our land also began on 22 July 1944. The next day, the crematorium chimneys of the Majdanek death camp ceased to belch forth smoke. The threat of the nation's extermination was stopped.

Poland's reconstruction commenced. A fierce struggle with the fascist invader was still in progress, but Polish schools, theaters, and publishing houses were already running, and economic, scientific, and cultural life were reviving.

Now that we have embarked upon the path of profound changes, we should remember the various narrow and twisting paths that we took in the past. Deleting 2 July from the list of important national days would be incomprehensible for the millions of Poles who contributed to today's great social and educational advancement. It would also be unfair to all those who strove to build a better Poland to the best of their strength and ability in those very difficult times.

Unfortunately, many of the values of the manifesto were lost. I do not intend to tone down the enormity of the mistakes, distortions, and crimes committed in the past. These cast a painful imprint on out society's life and consciousness. But that belongs to the past. Today we are capable of referring to the past in an objective and sober manner, and give the past its due.

Therefore, I trust that the parliament of the Polish Republic will not allow a repetition of the mistakes of those who hastily and irresponsibly removed from the calender of official state holidays 3 May and 11 November, symbols of national identity and continuity.

Poland's entire history is not free of various dramas, including painful ones. Great anniversaries are frequently connected with bitter reflection. However, the most important matter is that national reconciliation, mutual respect, and tolerance should triumph in the end. I wish that the decision of the house may be a valuable contribution to this work.

That is why I appeal to preserve 22 July as a national day.

Comrade marshal, please acquaint the Citizen Deputies with this letter at the current session of the house.

Army Daily Laments Abolition of 22 Jul Holiday

AU1204091990 Warsaw ZOLNIERZ RZECZYPOSPOLITEJ in Polish 9 Apr 90 p 6

["a"-signed commentary: "History Cannot Be Divided Up"]

[Text] In accordance with the wishes of the political forces that hold power, the Sejm has made 3 May a state holiday and, at the same time, abolished the 22 July holiday marking Poland's rebirth, although there was much discussion about this move and views differed substantially.

However, history cannot be divided up into "ours" and "theirs," because whatever one's attitude to past events may be, the events themselves cannot be altered. They can at most be interpreted in a new way.

So, it is not possible to erase the first days of freedom of that July from the memories of people who are still alive. For the inhabitants of the Lublin region, it marked a break with the period of Majdanek and Sobibor and the beginning of a new, still unknown future, but one that people believed would be better.

It was a time that saw a hundred-thousand strong Polish Army being greeted with tears of joy and open hearts on native soil. The new order in the country was not accepted by everyone—there are no illusions about that. However, a considerable number of those who were mistrustful took an active part in effecting the country's rise from the ashes. It would also be difficult to deny that soldiers and often officers of the Home Army joined the Polish Army en masse. It was not the propaganda or the way in which the new authorities governed that inclined them to take that step, but an inner conviction of the need to participate in what were historic events.

The time was a historic one: A historic opportunity arose to recover the territories in the west and the north that had been seized in the past and—this was perhaps so important in 1944—to obtain satisfaction for the September defeat and the humiliation that had been suffered during the Nazi occupation.

It was then that the left—although certainly not the left alone—rose to meet the challenge of the time: It set out a program for the rebuilding of the country in its changed geographical and institutional form, and it immediately embarked on realizing that program.

A symbolic document for that period was the July Manifesto that was issued by the Polish Committee of National Liberation, which considered its principal tasks to be "intensifying the Polish people's involvement in the struggle to crush Hitler's Germany." Those who created it believed that united—in one Polish Army with a joint command—all soldiers would accompany the victorious Red Army in going on to wage further battles for the liberation of the country, for the return of the old Polish lands of Pomorze, Silesia, Opole, and Eastern Prussia to the motherland, for broad access to the sea, for Polish frontier signs on the Odra, and for winning an appropriate place for Poland in the world.

This was a bold vision in the reality of 1944 and, at the same time, a vision that seized the imagination of our countrymen. It called for determination and tenacity in the armed struggle, and those qualities were not lacking in those who realized that vision. It also could not have been realized—this has to be stressed today—without the support of a great part of the population.

In thinking about that July 50 years later and about Rebirth Day, which has been celebrated for many years, it is difficult to avoid reflecting on the tortuous course that politics takes. The abolition of that holiday to mark Poland's rebirth, a day that has become steeped in tradition, is also—and this is worth remembering—an injustice toward the millions of people who committed themselves to the postwar reality in which they came to

live. They cannot be removed from the past in the way that 22 July can cease to appear in red in the pages of a diary.

45 Voivodship Head Prosecutors Recalled

LD1204201790 Warsaw PAP in English 1840 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 12—Prosecutor General Aleksander Bentkowski recalled 45 heads of voivodship prosecutor's offices, spokesman for the Ministry of Justice announced today.

New heads of voivodship prosecutor's offices are to be appointed by the prosecutor general during the next ten days.

USSR Admits NKVD Murdered Polish Officers

LD1304105790 Warsaw PAP in English 0830 GMT 13 Apr 90

["USSR Admits Responsibility for Katyn Crime"—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, April 13—Referring to the BBC foreign news service that quoted the Moscow Radio, Western news agencies reported last night that the USSR had admitted responsibility for murdering Polish Officers in Katyn.

News agencies stress that the Moscow radio in turn quoted a report of the TASS news agency that so far did not broadcast a report on this topic in its foreign news services.

The Moscow radio said that NKVD [People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs], predecessor of the secret KGB police, was responsible for the death of 15,000 Polish officers and other persons in Katyn in 1940. "The Soviet side expresses its deep regret over the tragedy and deems it one of the most horrifying Stalinist crimes," said the Moscow radio quoted by the BBC. It said that documents were discovered recently showing that the crime has been committed by the NKVD.

The BBC stresses that this is the first time that the USSR admitted responsibility for the Katyn Massacre. So far, the USSR had charged Nazi Germany with comitting the crime in the Katyn forest near Smolensk. Recalling the history of the Katyn Crime, AFP writes that during World War II this region changed hands and was controlled at first by the USSR and next by Germany.

REUTER quoted the Moscow radio English-Language service as saying: "The Soviet news agency TASS has published an official statement on the circumstances of the death of 15,000 Polish soldiers and officers who had been interned in several NKVD camps in September of 1939 in the Soviet Union.

"According to the recently discovered documents, those prisoners were handed over to several commands of the NKVD, the then security service, in April-May 1940, and were never mentioned any more in area reports or statistical data.

"The sum of evidence points to the responsibility for the crime resting on the then leadership of the NKVD department.

"The Soviet side expresses deep regret over the tragedy; and assesses it as one of the worst Stalinist crimes."

REUTER noted the fact that no mention of the name Katyn was included in the radio report.

Moscow-based AFP correspondent wrote, referring to "Interfax," Moscow radio publication that the Soviet VOYENNOISTORICHESKY ZHURNAL would soon carry documents proving that the NKVD was responsible for the massacre of 4,500 Polish officers in Katyn.

Victor Filatov, representative of the monthly, informed Interfax that printed would be archival documents confirming that Stalin's secret police had murdered 4,500 Poles buried in the Katyn forest."

The fate of other Polish POW's has not been settled yet, Filatov continued and added that 73 secret NKVD documents would be published in the June edition of the monthly.

USSR Admission on Katyn Noted

LD1304095190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0800 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] As we reported already, yesterday evening Moscow radio officially admitted for the first time that responsibility for killing Polish officers in Katyn 50 years ago lies with the leadership of the People's Commissariate of Internal Affairs (NKVD).

In the June issue of the monthly VOYENNYY ISTORICHESKIY ZHURNAL, 73 secret NKVD documents about other Polish POW's are to be published.

Geremek Responds to Admission

LD1304082390 Paris International Service in French 0630 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Excerpts] It has taken the Soviets 45 years to admit responsibility for the massacre at Katyn, 45 years to admit that the 15,000 soldiers of the Polish Army executed in the '40s in this little town in Belorussia had been killed by a bullet in the head by officers of the NKVD, the ancestor of the current KGB. [passage omitted] The first Polish reaction comes from Bronislaw Geremek, Lech Walesa's righthand man. Bronislaw Geremek is speaking to Radio France's special reporter in Poland, Jacques expert:

[Begin Geremek recording] It is a matter of moral satisfaction, but it is also a matter of changing the moral climate which surrounds Polish-Soviet relations. Until now this problem of Katyn was the real wall between

Poland and the Soviet Union in the relations between the societies or the peoples of the two states. [end recording]

Further on Geremek Comments

LD1304134290 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Excerpts] After half a century of blackout, the Katyn massacre is officially emerging from the mists. Until now, the Soviets had always accused the Nazis of being responsible for the deaths of the 15,000 Polish soldiers and officers who disappeared in the 1940's, but last night the USSR finally recognised what the Poles have been demanding for a long time, in other words, Stalin's guilt. [passage omitted]

Jacques Expert asked Bronislaw Geremek, the president of the Solidarity group in the Polish parliament, why this drama is still so present in the collective consciousness of the Poles:

[Begin recording] [Geremek] It can appear fairly incomprehensible that a drama of 50 years ago still plays a very important part in the Polish life of today, but that is how it is. It has remained a sore. It is a matter of moral satisfaction, but it is also a matter of changing the moral climate that surrounds Polish-Soviet relations. Until now, this problem of Katyn was the real wall between Poland and the Soviet Union in the relations between the societies or the peoples of the two states. I hope that this clear, simple, statement, telling the truth, will help in the future also to establish relations between Poland and the USSR in a normal fashion.

[Expert] Relations between the Soviet Union and Poland are in the process of changing. In your view, is the recognition of Katyn, the official and formal recognition of Katyn, an indispensable condition for real change?

[Geremek] I will tell you that relations between the Soviet Union and Poland have changed already because Poland is no longer part of the Soviet empire and these relations of political vassalage existed until now. On the other hand, for the establishment of new relations between two neighboring states, these new relations cannot be established before the truth about Katyn is spoken. Thus I believe it is an indispensable condition. [end recording]

Skubiszewski Addresses Issue of Stalinist Crimes

LD1204175190 Warsaw PAP in English 1450 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 12—In response to a question by Deputy Tadeusz Kijonka (the Parliamentary Floor Group of the democratic left wing) about government's steps aimed to estimate the size of losses Poland had suffered as a result of Stalinist crimes, Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski said that the government intended to ask the USSR to thoroughly examine the matter.

The Soviet side has already agreed to start talks at the governmental level on such issues as material compensation and restitution of objects of culture, he added.

Minister Skubiszewski also said that the general prosecutor of Poland addressed last October his counterpart in the Soviet Union with a motion to institute the inquiry into the crime in Katyn and the trial of sixteen leaders of the Polish underground state.

Skubiszewski in Budapest To Meet With Rio Group

LD1104215190 Warsaw PAP in English 2040 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 11—Poland's Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski arrived here today for a meeting between foreign ministers of seven Latin American countries, creating the so-called Rio group, and their counterparts from Central-Eastern Europe, to start on April 12.

This is the first such meeting during which the Latin American guests want to better acquaint themselves with this part of Europe and possibilitis of shaping new forms of cooperation.

The Rio group is a consultative forum trying to represent the interests of Latin America and it includes Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Uruguay, Venezuela and Peru.

Discusses Debt, Credits

LD1204225890 Warsaw PAP in English 2153 GMT 12 Apr 90

[By PAP reporter Tadeusz Belerski]

[Text] Budapest, April 12—Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski, who is taking part in a meeting of foreign ministers from Seven Latin American countries and their Central and Eastern European counterparts here, stressed in his interview for PAP that the interest of Poland and other countries of that European region in liquidation of division of Europe and entering various Western European organisations did not mean an Eurocentric attitude.

"In Latin America and in certain states of Asia there are great possibilities of trade and of developing economic relations. That is why during the meeting I proposed that aside a conference of ministers also sessions of experts from these very states were held twice a year. This idea was well received." The minister stated.

"The foreign minister of Mexico, with whom I had a long talk, offered a concrete proposal to hold a meeting of the presidents of both banks as we have common problems to solve—the questions of debt, credits and investing. Also an exchange of views on the way of solving the problem of debt can be profitable for," Skubiszewski said.

Jaruzelski Arrives in Kiev

LD1104230490 Warsaw PAP in English
1827 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Lvov, April 11—President of the Republic of Poland Wojciech Jaruzelski, on an official visit to the Soviet Union, arrived in Kiev, the cpaital of the Ukraine, today evening.

Mihai Urged To Postpone Visit Until Jun

AU1204140390 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 10 Apr 90 pp 1, 2

[Sergiu Andon article: "Better Stay Away for a While, Your Majesty!" (Bine ati mai ramine, Maiestate!)]

[Excerpts] Even the most inveterate republicans want to see a king in the flesh at least once in their life. Monarchs are viewed as figures belonging to the realm between fantasy and reality like some actors in children's fairy tales, offering people of today compensation for the impossibility of encountering thunderbolts, dragons with seven heads, gold fish, and wizards. In the Middle Ages the monarchy was the pillar of the social structure, while today it is at most the varnish and stucco of that building. [passage omitted]

We—whose monarchical tradition is not stronger than the republican one and who alienated neither our riches nor our stability in the 80 years in which we flaunted our kingdom—seem to be spared the dilemma connected with a form of government. However, we do not know what prospects will be opened by the complicated poll of pre- and post-electoral alliances. Maybe the alternative monarchy-republic is not the only one! Perhaps, for instance, after the decisive victory of one of the parties of the Romanies [Gypsies] or of their coalition with who knows what other powerful parties, the Constituent Assembly will decide that it would be better for us to have a Gypsy chieftain as head of state and that the form of government should be a chieftainship. (Not to be confused with the type of chieftainship that is the current form of government). Thus, the restoration of the monarchy is not imminent; however, no hypothesis can be ruled out.

Then why so much reticence in connection with Mr. Mihai Hohenzollern's intention to come share Easter eggs with us? Why do political leaders with such different platforms, lines, and leanings hasten to reques. that the visit be postponed?

For various reasons, including respect for Mr. Mihai Hohenzollern for the way in which he participated in some closed chapters in our country's history, and out of trust that what he has in mind is just a nostalgic and private pilgrimage. Our home is not prepared, our country is not ready for a visit termed so private that it actually means more than it implies. And then there is another reason which we want to whisper in your ear as a former fellow citizen and monarch: We are sick, Sire, we are very sick.

We suffer from pushing and shoving and forming crowds. Not all of us, of course, but there are enough contaminated people and therefore we beg you to consider our quarantine. This desire to form crowds is characterized by a number of symptoms about which you cannot remain indifferent. What characterizes this disease is an extraordinary attraction to crowds, euphoric chants with or without reason, a pathological desire to devour images, names, and biographies of political leaders without any sense of balance, feelings in the heart, or ideas in the mind. This emotional state makes political dialogue difficult or impossible. [passage omitted]

Such a reaction during your visit would spoil its private charm, which you hold so dear, and could provoke incidents that would completely cancel the pious note you, undoubtedly, desire. We have begun Holy Week and you, as well as we ourselves, have to fast, to confess (alas, how much we have to tell our priests, whom we trust from now on), we have to receive the Eucharist, and we also have to do our shopping; during this very busy time it would be completely irresponsible to form crowds to welcome you.

How could we be indifferent to your visit! You have been looking forward to it for so many years, and we are also looking forward to you as our guest. But not yet. We are not ready yet. Perhaps we will welcome you with bread and salt. [Romanian tradition of welcoming guests] However, the salt is damp and the bread is not baked yet. Wait for a while until our fever is over and the Art Museum is repaired—in which you lived during your childhood; maybe you will make a donation to it. Wait until enmities calm down and we become Christians again and then we will welcome you with honesty and even affection. Do come when your presence will not run the risk of fanning hatred and destruction, but love for people and the country in the name of whom you announced you visit.

Maybe at Pentecost, Majesty.

Visa Decision 'Childish'

LD1204202190 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Nothing is simple in Romania. The Bucharest Government originally agreed to allow King Michael of Romania to return to his country but it has now made a complete reversal. His entry visa has just been withdrawn from him. The king will thus not be able to take the plane in Geneva this afternoon. [passage omitted] We decided to ask for clarification from the Romanian ambassador in France, in Paris, and it came as some surprise that he did not express solidarity with the decision. Alexandru Paleologu was questioned by Benoit Georges:

[Begin Paleologu recording] I do not understand why they have made such a drama about this matter. I do not see how the king's visit can have anything to do with the election propoganda or the election campaign. The government has shown itself to be inconsistent. After issuing him with a visa in a very pleasant and polite way, it is now withdrawing it from him having meanwhile dramatized the matter by all sorts of interference and attempts at persuasion. To act in the way the government has acted is a mistake, a childish mistake, and I would stress the word childish in order to defend it slightly if such a

defense is sufficient. However, I do not think it can be sufficient as the government does not have the right to be childish. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Mihai Abandons Planned Visit

AU1204125490 Paris AFP in English 1237 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpt] ZURICH, Switzerland, April 12 (AFP)—Former King Mihai of Romania on Thursday abandoned a planned Easter visit to his homeland after more than 40 years in exile because the provisional government withdrew his visa.

But he told a press conference at the airport of Zurich-Kloten, from where he had intended to fly to Bucharest, that he had "the firm intention of returning as quickly as possible" to his country.

A spokesman for the Swissair airline said the company had complied with a request from the Romanian authorities not to allow the royal party to board the aircraft in line with international regulations barring passengers from flying without entry visas for their destinations.

The former king, showing a British passport with a diplomatic visa issued by the Romanian embassy in Berne on April 5, said that it was "most unfortunate that a country no longer accepts its citizens".

He stressed that his visit was of a "private nature" and that he had been about to make his first visit to Romania since abdicating on December 30, 1947, in order to "celebrate Easter" with the Romanian people. [passage omitted]

Ex-King 'Determined' To Visit

AU1204151890 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1500 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE announces that former King Mihai I of Romania postponed the private visit he planned to make to Romania over the Easter holiday. At Zurich Airport, the former Romanian sovereign said that the visit was only postponed and that he is firmly determined to go to Romania as soon as possible, on a private visit.

Spokesman Explains Visa Cancellation

AU1204181990 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] In connection with the visit to Romania by former King Mihai of Hohenzollern, Mr. Romulus Neagu, deputy minister of foreign affairs and that ministry's spokesman, made the following statement at a news conference today:

When we learned of his desire to come to Romania, the interim Romanian charges d'affaires in Bern immediately got in touch with the former king and expressed the Romanian Government's approval of this visit and even the desire to extend some facilities, as suits a civilized country. The former king rejoiced in the information conveyed to him by the Romanian diplomat. However, strong reactions of opposition to this visit were later registered from many political forces in our country. All this was brought to the attention of the former king, who was also advised to postpone his planned visit for a later date.

From that point onward, the former king was no longer available and could only be contacted through his entourage, from which we expected an answer. This answer failed to arrive until today, at noon. However, Mr. Romulus Neagu said, there is an ambiguous answer; namely that the visit would take place. Mr Romulus Neagu said that the former king was also told that the necessary entry visas had been canceled because the king chose to travel to Romania on a British passport, although, from a Romanian viewpoint, he is a Romanian citizen.

NLP Communique on Visit

AU1204181890 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] The National Liberal Party [NLP] expressed its point of view on the arrival of King Mihai in Romania, stating that the visit, in the middle of the electoral campaign, is inopportune. On the other hand, the NLP does not agree with the government decision to not grant an entrance visa to the king and the people accompanying him. The NLP believes that this measure is undemocratic, especially since, according to reliable information, the government decided to reschedule this visit, offering the king, a couple of days ago, residence in a villa, a car, and a personal guard, as well as an official program. The king refused these offers.

However, the NLP is not against the king's visit after the election when the sociopolitical climate has settled. Romania's form of state will be decided only by the Romanian people through a referendum, concludes the NLP communique.

Princess Helen on Visit

AU1204185490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1715 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Ex-King Michael Postpones Visit"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/4/1990—Now in Bucharest, Princesses Helen and Sofia of Hohenzollern, daughters of Ex-King Michael of Romania, made a statement to press representatives expressing the regret of the former monarch of not having been let by the Romanian authorities to spend Easter in Romania. Princess Helen also said that this father would attend mass in Paris but in those sacred moments his thoughts would be with the Romanian people, and that he hoped that the Romanians' wish of freedom would soon come true.

Princess Helen stressed that the king had planned his private visit on Easter as a pilgrimage to his native country. I am convinced the the king will come soon. He asked me to wish you a happy Easter in peace and liberty, she said.

Next, Mr. Dan Oprescu, member of the Group for Social Dialogue, one of the editors of the "22" weekly, read a communique which considers the cancellation of the visa of the man who was Romania's constitutional monarch does no credit to the December 1989 revolution. We are of the opinion that no electoral circumstance could justify the violation of a fundamental right such as that of one's visiting the country where one was born, the communique reads. As for the modality in which this restriction has been applied we think that it is incompatible with a civilized and democratic Romania.

The Romanian princesses will continue their trip as planned.

Roman on Visa Withdrawal

AU1304091090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0739 GMT 13 Apr 90

["Official News: The Prime Minister Makes a Few Points"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 13/4/1990—At the request of the Romanian radiotelevision, Prime Minister Roman elaborated, in the evening of 12 April, on the government action for the postponement of the ex-King Michael I's visit.

In its action, the government followed exactly the decisions made by the Executive Bureau of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC]. It should be said that, as early as 23 February, Mr. Iliescu received a letter from Romania's former monarch who stated his wish that a referendum be called on the restoration of monarchy in Romania. Obviously, the letter has a profound political character and is a political act in substance. An answer was fomulated in a PNUC Executive Bureau meeting. The answer shows that the PNUC's basic task is to make and adopt an electoral law which was achieved and that only the Constituent Assembly, therefore the one that will be elected on 20 May, will be in a position to decide on the referendum when the future constitution is enacted. These two things are worth considering because, as I have already said, the reason for the Romanian Government's impossibility to agree with the return of Romania's ex-King was precisely the political nature of that visit. The fact is that, after the king stated his wish to visit Romania again, the response of the PNUC Executive Bureau on which several political organizations are represented was a unanimous no. Obviously, the government could only take note of that answer of the political power organ. And yet, considering the possibility of a strictly private visit, as the ex-King said at one time, the Romanian Government issued the necessary diplomatic visas and even stated its readiness for assistance during the visit to Romania. Unfortunately, there followed a statement of the former monarch and his family, and the organization of the visit that resumed its political character through its scope he was to be accompanied by about on hundred journalists, attend a rally in Timisoara, make many visits in the country and meet with political organizations and personalities, the population, attend the resurrection mass at the Metropolitan Church. Under those circumstances it was clear that the strictly private visit became a political visit which was unwanted, as political organizations stated and very many negative reactions in the country showed. That being so, there followed full contacts with the ex-King himself and eventually with his family to explain the position of the Government of Romania, its action in agreement with the current interests, with the political climate in our country at present, and to ask him to postpone his visit until after the elections. I would say that only after all possibilities of agreement were exhausted was the Romanian Government in a position to explain not to the ex-King who could no longer be contacted, but to a family member that, considering the situation, it had, or would have, to cancel the visa. There was silence afterwards. So, we received no answer to that last action through the government's diplomatic channels and the visa was revoked, as you know. I want to make this point here, namely that at no time was the government's action undemocratic, that it was a coherent action in agreement with both the official position of the PNUC Executive Bureau, with the separately stated positions of various political organizations, with the negative reaction of the population, and with the interests of maintaining a political climate as the election requires and the electoral law defines. Because the only act with a constitutional character that takes us to the free election is the electoral law. This electoral law is an act that was adopted by broad consensus, so government action is modelled by this basic act the electoral law. Therefore government action cannot be a departure from this electoral act, from this electoral law which makes provisions for how elections are prepared and held in Romania. Therefore, in agreement with this constitutional act, with the positions stated in the country, and in agreement with the view and decision of the PNUC Exeuctive Bureau which is the organ of political power, it is our opinion that the government action is a pro-democracy action, apt to ensure the democratic climate that we fought for, that we have been working for. In order to get to free elections free from any interference that might threaten political stability.

Ex-King Says Denial 'Serious Act'

AU1304100490 Paris AFP in English 0928 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Geneva, April 13 (AFP)—Former King Mihai of Romania accused Bucharest on Friday of "a serious act" in barring him from visiting his homeland for the first time in 42 years.

He said he wanted to serve Romania "in the context of a true democratic process".

Romanian authorities decided on Wednesday to withdraw an entry visa they had granted the exiled former monarch a few days earlier, saying his visit would have a political impact inappropriate for a British passport holder.

The ex-king, who lives near Geneva, said he had chosen Easter for his first trip home because the festival was a "symbol of resurrection and hope after so much suffering".

"I also wanted to honor the memory of all the Romanians who fell to restore an authentic democracy in my country," he said.

Rejecting the authorities' objection to his visit on the grounds that he holds a British passport, he said he was never stripped of his Romanian citizenship. He had been "forced to abdicate under threat that a thousand students taken hostage would be executed."

"I still have my Romanian passport, which I never renewed to avoid giving these regimes my backing," he said.

"I wanted to visit the grave of my grandparents. What's political about that?"

"For 45 years, the whole history of Romania has been deliberately wiped out. I've been erased from the history of Romania and my presence in my country could bring back things that would undoubtedly bother certain people," the ex-monarch, aged 69, said.

On Thursday about 1,000 people demonstrated in Bucharest in protest against the provisional government's decision not to let the former king come home.

"The king with us, Iliescu out! Down with the nomenklatura!" were the most frequently heard slogans chanted by the crowd. One speaker said the "ban on the king is dictatorship and to offend him is to offend us!" [passage omitted]

Current Situation of Electoral Alliances Viewed

AU0604195290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1814 GMT 6 Apr 90

["Electoral Alliances"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 6/4/1990—As the election campaign goes on, surprise-initiatives are showing: electoral alliances or "non-aggression pacts" among political parties, says writer Paul Dobrescu in the daily ADEVARUL newspaper.

For example, talks are held this week for the conclusion of a "non-aggression pact" between the historical parties—the National Liberal, the National Christian Democratic Peasants and the Social Democratic Parties—to avoid criticism and attack among them. In its turn the National Salvation Front is on the point of making electoral understandings with a considerable number of larger or smaller political organizations.

Things are still unclear with centre parties none of which has emerged yet as a potential nucleus of a future coalition. The only alliance so far is between the Democratic Unity and the Liberal (Freedom) Parties of Romania that will run in the elections on a common platform and with one list only. The Democratic Centre Group that gathers 23 political organizations is to form an electoral cartel.

Showing an interest in the appeal launched by the Christian Democratic Union 14 political organizations are likely to start talks on a possible anti-communist coalition in Romania which is going to have joint lists of candidates.

For their part, the unions of ethnic minorities have formed a cartel with other centre-left parties. With a large number of supporters "Vatra Romaneasca" seems to play a leading part for the victory of such an alliance.

It is a fact that beyond the attempt to create political alliances no political party is very strong by itself. A decisive factor is the course of the yet undecided electors' sympathy: so far they represent 30-40 per cent of the total number of voters.

Traditional Parties To Cooperate in Elections

AU0704200390 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1900 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] We present now the following communique:

In view of the fact that the general elections scheduled for 20 May 1990 are a decisive battle in the struggle for freedom, the representatives of the traditional parties of Romania, namely the National Peasants Party (Christian Democratic) [NPPCD], the National Liberal Party [NLP], and the Social Democratic Party of Romania [SDPR]—in the spirit of the historical cooperation between these formations, based on the common struggle to defend the democratic principles and the Romanian people's freedom—and the representatives of the new and truly democratic parties that have emerged after the December 1989 revolution decide the following:

In order to ensure a most efficient electoral propaganda campaign for our political formations, we pledge to avoid—for the duration of these elections—all propagandistic attacks against or negative statements about the other co-signatory formations, thus facilitating our common struggle against the true enemies of democracy.

During the elections, we pledge to take all necessary steps to ensure that our representatives in the electoral bureaus can supervise the voting operation, so as to avoid any kind of electoral fraud that may affect the result of the elections.

Concerning the elections for the republic's presidency, in case no candidate obtains the absolute majority in the first ballot, we pledge to support with all our might the best placed representative of our parties for the second ballot.

We also pledge to support each other in the effort to ensure a normal atmosphere in the country, in order to facilitate truly free elections, by exchanging information and cooperating in all endeavors to prevent acts of violence, aggression, intimidation, disinformation, and slander against our members.

All signatory parties and political formations participate in the elections on the basis of their own programs, with separate lists. After the elections, regardless of their results, we are determined to remain united and not to form a coalition cabinet with a political formation constituted on the basis of the old communist structures.

In the Constituent Assembly to be formed after the elections, we pledge to cooperate in working out a constitution based on the principles of true pluralistic democracy, by observing basic human rights and freedoms.

This agreement is open for all other truly democratic political formations, which want to join and will be accepted.

The joint statement is signed by President Corneliu Coposu for the NPPCD, President Radu Campeanu for the NLP, and President Sergiu Cunescu, for the SDPR.

Center Parties' Alliance Set Up

AU0804143890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1308 GMT 8 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/4/1990—Sunday 8 April, an agreement was signed by 16 Democratic Centre Parties to form an electoral cartel which will have one list of candidates for both deputies and senators in all constituencies. An Electoral Campaign Central Coordination Board was also set up to work out and implement the electoral strategy and tactics.

The members of this alliance have until 12 April to harmonize their positions of principle in order to agree on a common platform for the election. The parties' parliamentary activity before and after the elections will be set in concert, including for participation in the government. It was agreed that other parties may join it until 10 April.

Social Democratic Leader Cunescu on Elections

PM1204102290 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 9 Apr 90 p 15

[Interview with Social Democratic Party General Secretary Sergiu Cunescu by Mihail Moldoveanu; place and date not given]

[Text] [Moldoveanu] Is access to the media difficult?

[Cunescu] Yes, for instance it is very difficult to free television from government manipulation because it is extensively manipulated. Of course, there has been some progress, appeals from students and very specific statements. But we must still struggle.

[Moldoveanu] Is there a change in the Front's attitude?

[Cunescu] It took power, claiming that it had emerged from the revolution. But its legitimacy is debatable. Let us make things clear: The revolution was a total national explosion at a time when massacres were being perpetrated. However, the revolution was taken over by this group because the other national movements were not organized. The pressure from the Securitate was extreme. The only body capable of taking power was therefore the Communist Party. It was top party figures who immediately seized the controls.

Because they had promised that they would take democratic measures, we did not initially oppose them. After signing the first vital decrees, they used those to argue their democratic legitimacy and made that the theme of their election campaign. Mr. Iliescu is probably a nice man, but everybody knows that he was Ceausescu's heir.

[Moldoveanu] Do you have a transitional social and economic model?

[Cunescu] The political revolution in our country was sudden. We must now slowly change the economic system because we are starting with a completely state-owned economy and we are moving toward a system that will be the best transition between a market economy and a form of state ownership. After 50 years, it is impossible to move safely to a fully liberalized system.

Trade union legislation and labor legislation have an important place in our program. We are counting in particular on the trade unions and, to that end, we are encouraging the formation of free trade unions, which are as yet unknown in our country.

[Moldoveanu] Are these elections not rather premature?

[Cunescu] Oh, if they had been postponed until September, we would have had the time and means to prepare for them. But we have very little time. We will try. I do not know whether we will win. At worst, we can hope to form a consistent opposition in parliament.

[Moldoveanu] Do you think that a strong parliamentary opposition is likely to spark a split in Romanian society?

[Cunescu] That is what government propaganda is trying to prove. We still have the same disinformation in the communist press in which our parties are portrayed as parties in the pay of foreign countries. All sorts of malicious gossip is being circulated on such a scale that it is dangerous to us.

[Moldoveanu] How has this system of disinformation survived the Ceausescu regime?

[Cunescu] Because the present government has maintained the resources and staff of the Securitate's huge disinformation service. And it is still operating.

[Moldoveanu] Do you think that you can overcome this handicap and win over public opinion?

[Cunescu] I am relying more on the people's political intuition than on information. I am also counting on the Front's mistakes. It makes them constantly. From that viewpoint, it is our best ally.

Paper Lists NSF Steering Collegium

AU1204182890 Bucharest DIMINEATA in Romanian 10 Apr 90 p 4

[Text] The Steering Collegium of the National Salvation Front [NSF]

President: Ion Iliescu

Vice Presidents: Claudiu Iordache, Marin Costescu, Sorin Adrian Vornicu Nechifor, Vasile Ailenei, Nicolae S. Dumitru

Secretaries: Bogdan Patrascu, Constantin Ivanovici, Florica Dumitrescu, Vasile Vacaru, Adrian Nastase

Members: Dan Iosif, Catalin Iorgulescu, Mioc Adrian, Vladimir Pasti, Gheorghe Scortan, Vladimir Lazarescu, Horia Tudosie, Mircea Marinescu, Florentina Petrut, Adrian Vladescu, Simona Galbenusa, Iliasa Vasile, Ion Mladin, Constantin Profir, Mircea Petrescu, Velicu Radina, Elisabeta Vasile, Liviu Catichi, Turi Gabor, Iulian Barbu, Doina Cristea Onette, Andrei Svoronos, Silvian Ionescu, Gheorghe Mihai Taralunga, Octavian Fieroiu, Nicolae Giurgea, Bogdan Niculescu Duvaz, Ion Hedea, Nicolae Lazar, Ion Oncea, Dan Costea, Catalin Radulescu, Mihaita Postolache, Mircea David, Dumitru Mocanu, Ionel Alexandru, George Gridanusu Mihaela, Vasile Ion, Nicolae Tautu, Ion Pinu, Bucur Butoi, Petre Mihai Pop, Mihail Iurcu, Radu Berceanu, Alexandru Buruiana, Mihai Iusut, Mihai Toni Grebla, Emilia George Igna, Mihai Iordache, Constantin Botez, Teodor Luputiu, Emanoil Mihai Cernescu, Gheorghe Muresan, Nicolae Gradinaru, Petre Turlea, Ioan Moldovan, Vasile Goje, Romeo Trifu, Ion Zgorcea, Valentin Prodan

Iliescu Visits Arad, Addresses Crowd

AU1104193690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1901 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 11/4/1990—Wednesday morning Mr. Ion Iliescu, president of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC], was in Arad to meet representatives of the political and public life in the locality and the county.

After laying a floral wreath at the cross raised to the memory of the 21 heroes of the revolution in that town, Mr. Ion Iliescu met employees of such economic units as the clock works, where the revolution started, the car works, the fine mechanics and textile plants.

At noon, nearly 10,000 persons gathered spontaneously in the Town Hall Square to show their sympathy for the NSF [National Salvation Front] nominee for Romania's presidency. Mr. Ion Iliescu made a speech on the occasion referring to current questions of Romania's home and foreign policy.

The PNUC president also took part in a religious service at the Orthodox Church on Wednesday.

Protest Against Peasant's 16-21 December Group

AU0804143290 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 30 Mar 90 p 3

["Protest"-entitled note]

[Text] In connection with the confusion caused by the 9 February 1990 announcement in daily DREPTATEA—an announcement also broadcast by the radio and television—about the creation of an association called "16-21 December," we state the following:

The "21 December" Association of Bucharest and the "16 December" Confederation of Timisoara have no connection whatsoever with the "16-21 December" organization set up later under the direct patronage of the National Peasants Party (Christian-Democratic) [NPPCD].

In accordance with their statutes, the "21 December" Association of Bucharest and the "16-21 December" Confederation of Timisoara are nonpolitical organizations, do not get involved in the struggle for power, and do not represent the interests of any party.

The "21 December" Association of Bucharest and the "16-21 December" Confederation of Timisoara protest against the use by political parties of the tragic events of 16-21 December 1990 for electoral purposes.

The "21 December" Association of Bucharest, President A. Nancu

The "16-21 December" Confederation of Timisoara, President T. Covaci

Free Exchange Party Holds Congress

AU0804143690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1259 GMT 8 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/4/1990—The founding congress of the Free Exchange Party was held in Bucharest Sunday 8 April, when it heard a report of the party's steering council. Work then continued in three commissions which discussed the party's platform-programme, statute and electoral strategy. The steering council of the Free Exchange Party was elected.

The congress ended with a procession to Cismigiu Gardens in the heart of Bucharest where a bust stands of Ion Luca Caragiale, the party's spiritual father.

Platform of Democratic Unity, Liberal Parties

AU0904100190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0859 GMT 9 Apr 90

["Joint Platform of Democratic Unity and Liberal (Liberty) Parties"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 9/4/1990—According to the general political principles of the two parties, "all power in the state is vested in the nation which exercises it through representatives elected by universal, equal, direct and secret, free and democratic ballot". Within the unitary Romanian state, the territory of which is inalienable and inviolable, they take action for a full equality of rights of all citizens, without distinction as to race, nationality, sex and religion.

In foreign affairs, the parties pursue good relations with all neighbouring states and growing links with all the states of the world, particularly with the European Community for Romania's integration into a united Europe.

Economically, these parties promote a gradual transition to the market economy, encourage foreign investment in all spheres of the economy and pursue the abolition of state monopoly on foreign trade, the consolidation of individual farmsteads by giving the village population a title to land and by resettlement in the rural area, promote private initiative in trade and services, and full freedom of association in cooperatives.

In social policy, these parties aim to have all labour laws re-made, the right to strike and free trade unions recognized, and to put the conditions in place for the training of youth and its direct participation in the management of all kinds of activities in society.

Free Democratic Youth Party Holds Conference

AU0704145290 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1000 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] The proceedings of the conference of the Free Democratic Youth Party of Romania, whose headquarters are in Sfintu Gheorghe, began at the House of Culture of this town in Covasna County. Representatives from Bucharest and all county branches are attending the conference.

The conference is to elect the Steering Committee and will endorse the statute and activity program for the election campaign.

The Free Democratic Youth Party, which incorporates Romanians and Hungarians, does not propose to win power, but to protect the interests of youth within the country's democratic framework.

It has been announced that next week this party's press organ ROMANIA TINARA will be published in Bucharest.

Ecological Movement To Run in Elections

AU0704184690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1653 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 7/4/1990—Romania's Ecological Movement will contest the 20 May parliamentary elections on single lists in all constituencies. The decision was made by the all-country conference of the movement which met in session on 6 and 7 April in Bucharest.

Ecological Party Denies Support for Coalition

AU1004194890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1742 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 10/4/1990—The Humanist Ecologic Party denies... It would have adhered to a convention between some centre democratic parties.

"The Humanist Ecologic Party of Romania, disavowing the extremes, remains a centre party fully independent in its actions, and sovereign in establishing whether it adheres to one coalition or another," says a cable sent to ROMPRES.

Brucan on Prospects for Economy

AU1104123690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0916 GMT 11 Apr 90

["The Economy—Between Two Models"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 11/4/1990—The fundamental strategic option of East European countries in last year's radical changes is the indiscriminate copying of Western economic and political models, as is the case of Hungary and Poland, or a well-thought synthesis of other economic and political models that proved most efficient, writes Silviu Brucan in his article "Europeans or South-East Europeans?" in the daily ADEVARUL.

In Romania's case, the author states, the synthesis should be made between the South Korean economic model and the Austrian social one. "The attraction of Western capital and of multinational corporations with the maintenance of a powerful competitive-capitalist style state sector so that decisions be made in Bucharest and not in New York or London, or Paris, are a common factor of both models". The fundamental target of such strategy should be not the current re-technologization of the high raw materials and energy consuming factories (which could be a secondary target), but the effort to create a powerful basis for the high technology production, microelectronics and computers first of all. This programme is not utopian, the author thinks, because the country has a large force of scientists and technicians that should be "retechnologized", retrained as soon as possible after years of isolation and lack of scientific and technical information. The days are gone when the progress of one country was measured by the number of

its factories. Today, it is the number of scientists and technicians plus highly-trained workers that are decisive, says Mr.Brucan.

The Austrian social model offers a relatively well-balanced society in which production is stimulated by market forces and the national income is equally distributed by the state which avoids a large gap between the rich and the poor as in the United States or Great Britain. "We didn't make a revolution to bring back from the historical past a rich class ready to share profits with its Western employers", says the author, stressing that "on the contrary, we have to assure Romanian workers will not live the nightmare of unemployment, and yet have the prospects to reach the Austrian workers' standard of living" and of productivity which is three times bigger than of Romanian workers". [quotations marks as received]

Review of Economy in First Quarter of 1990

AU1204184690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1738 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/4/1990—The maintenance of most of the economic indicators below the level of the first quarter last year is a constantly worrying factor. A communique of the National Commission for Statistics shows a certain revigoration, an improvement of work in March this year as compared to the first two months, but it is insignificant considering the demands of the economy. The marketable industrial production that succeeded in turning out 86.3 per cent of the March 1989 achievements which were already below the level attained in the same period in 1988, has strongly oscillated in point of achievements by products. The only products with which last March's achievements have been outdone are the aluminium rolled goods (22.8 per cent), electrotechnological automation means (10.9 per cent), tractors (13.6 per cent), fuel oil (3.8 per cent), soap (19.7 per cent), edible oil (32.3 per cent), slaughtered meat (17.7 per cent), meat preparations (50.7 per cent), dairy products (28 per cent) and cheese (37 per cent). The most substantial growth has been registered by the sales of commodities to the population. Sales of gasoline increased 212 per cent, of butter 127 per cent, TV Receivers 77.6 per cent, meat 43.8 per cent, "Dacia" cars 187.5 per cent, and so on. The high dynamics of goods sales has been supported by massive imports of foodstuffs which completed the quantities obtained from the home production. Despite all this, one cannot speak yet about a fulfilment of the population's demands for foodstuffs, a domain where it is still much to be done.

With several types of products like TV receivers, automobiles, four-wheel-drive cars, buses, ethylene, soda ash, pest-killers, medicines, polynitrilacrylic fibres, the production turned out has been not only below the 1989 level but also below the level of the first two months this year. The dynamics recorded with export and import are also worrisome. Though the government's programme stipulates that exports should be lower and imports higher than in 1989, the maintenance in March, too, of an extremely low dynamics of export (below 60 per cent as to 1989) and very high with import (twice higher with convertible currency) is alarming in point of the foreign trade balance. At the end of 1989 Romania registered a 2.5-billion-dollar trade balance surplus, an amount achieved through supermanly efforts, through an unconceivable deterioration of the Romanian people's quality of life. However, it would be unjustifiable to spend all this money exclusively on foodstuffs when the country also needs tremendous investments to restructure and modernize its industry.

Machine Building Minister on U.K. Cooperation

AU2203180990 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 11 Mar 90 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Machine Building Minister Aurel Stoica by Gh. Cercelescu; place and date not given: "The Romanians Have Become Valid Partners for the British"]

[Text] [Cercelescu] Mr. Minister, throughout the years economic relations between Romania and Great Britain had times of upsurge. In the past years, however, they have decreased. During your talks in London in the past days did the British side express the British Government's desire to revitalize bilateral economic relations under the new political circumstances in our country?

[Stoica] First I would like to make a general statement: I personally think that, under the given circumstances, not to tell the full truth is worse than to lie. Therefore, I want to inform the public in our country that in Britain we noted a very great interest in Romania, special admiration for the Romanian people, for their revolution, and especially for this process of passing from the revolution to rebirth. The area of the greatest interest, as I noted, was the nature of our revolution and the fact that while the revolution broke out against the dictatorship, it now continues against the system that made such a dictatorship possible. I have the impression that at the beginning the people I talked with wanted to put me to the test, that is, they wanted to see whether I can convey what I think, something which formerly was just an illusion. Now I am sure that the British view us as a valid partner, although we are in the position of ensuring a future on the basis of a miserable past. They give us credit because they believe we are different people and think differently than before.

However, I am returning from this visit with mixed feelings of optimism and desperation. My optimism is based on the fact that we have sincere friends, people who want to help us because they see us as talented and hard-working people and as a long-term partner. My desperation is?g?nerated by the fact that the gap between the two countries, which widened especially in the past 25 years, is outright embarrassing.

[Cercelescu] What do the actual actions in the aerospace industry, on which agreement has been reached with British Aerospace and Rolls Royce, consist of?

[Stoica] On the basis of our understandings one of the broadest cooperative ventures ever known to the machine building industry in our country was launched. Thus, a memorandum was signed with British Aerospace whereby the famous British company will be involved in changing the engine of our "Rombac" plane in order to increase its competitiveness. British Aerospace will be a co-participant first in certifying and authorizing this plane in accordance with international aerospace norms and then in implementing the program by assuming part of the trade risk in this process. Other modernization measures have also been agreed on, especially the modernization of the cockpit.

We also signed a document that sets on new bases our relations with Rolls Royce, which considers the "Turbomecanica" enterprise a valid partner, if left to think and decide on its own. On the same occasion, several problems were clarified, particularly of a financial nature, which hampered cooperation with British Aerospace and Rolls Royce. On this occasion, too, I want to emphasize the very positive role played by Mr. George Pop, this wonderful Englishman of Romanian origin, in ensuring the continuity of Romanian-British relations in the area of aerospace and setting them on new bases.

[Cercelescu] At this time just one "Rombac" plane is being built per year. Can the production process continue at such a pace without harming the national economy?

[Stoica] In the coming four years the implementation of the cooperation program with British Aerospace will increase the production from one to 10 planes per year. At the same time, the new engine that will be used for the "Rombac" will reduce the specific fuel consumption some 16-17 percent and will bring the noise pollution factor below the level that is considered as normal internationally. Such improvements, which will be followed by others, are going to ensure a demand for Rombac planes in the market that will certainly take us into the next century.

In conclusion, I would like to say that no matter how positive our understandings, they will not yield the results expected if we do not firmly respect the laws and our promises, and if we do not respect our partners as we respect ourselves. Not to take care that your business partner wins, too, may be fatal for any enterprising person. Actually, one can cheat a business partner only once. I personally am looking with trust to the future of Romanian-British economic relations.

Minister on Agriculture Privatization Process

AU0704155090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0850 GMT 7 Apr 90

["Economy: Romanian Agriculture Today"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 7/4/1990—Of the nine million hectares of arable land Romania has at present three million have been distributed to the farmers, mechanical engineers and intellectuals living in villages, and even to inhabitants of neighbouring towns, stated Mr. Victor Surdu, minister secretary of state at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry. The option for the structure of crops and the productions belong to those who till the land, this being a first form of liberalization of the agrarian economy in Romania.

The remainder (six million hectares) belong to state farms—two million—and cooperative unions—four million. The cooperative unions have set the structure of the crops, the technologies to be used and the destination of their products all by themselves.

Mr. Minister Surdu opined that the agrarian joint-stock venture is an ideal form of passing to the market economy.

Referring to Romania's cooperation with foreign firms to the end of setting up joint ventures he mentioned the cooperation with Italy (Deltafina, Imbe, Seco, Fiat Agre), the USA, England (Barter group) and others. This cooperation pursues the modernization of the irrigation technologies, animal foddering with additives, as well as the manufacture of new tractors.

No Irrigation Systems To Be Built This Year

AU0904195290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1718 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/4/1990—The minister of water, forestry and environment, Mr Simion Hincu, specifies that no irrigation system will be built this year.

The Siret-Baragan Canal, the largest investment project in Vrancea County, will be continued on short sectors that will have to connect the lakes in the Mostistea zone, eliminating the pumping of water from the Danube.

At present efforts are made to finalize a 5.3-km sector of the canal which is ready except for water catchment works. It will allow for the irrigation of roughly 19,500 hectares. In the next four years works will be extended on approximately 21 km. A total of 45,700 hectares will be thus irrigated.

The Danube-Jiu-Olt-Arges hydropower system, a gigantic project has been limited to a 23-km canal—Draganesti-Olt-Arges that can be finished in one year, one year and a half. This project which requires investment worth half a million or so, allows for the irrigation of over 46 thousand hectares.

The Danube-Bucharest canal was abandoned as it requests inordinately large investment which does not justify the possible goods traffic on that waterway. Works have been stopped along the river Arges up to Mihailesti. The lake there will be used to control floods.

The works performed on that canal until now are estimated at about eleven billion lei. Unfortunately, the minister said, part of them are useless.

Deputy Oil Minister on Oil Production

AU1204163590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1230 GMT 12 Apr 90

["The Economy—Romania's Oil Production Less Than Planned"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/4/1990—The hydrocarbon production in the first quarter of the year in Romania was 99 per cent of the planned one with crude, 97.8 per cent with natural gas and 107.5 per cent with gasoline, shows daily DIMINEATA quoting the answers given to one of its reporters by Nicolae Nicolescu, deputy minister of oil.

In this period of transition, new hydrocarbon deposits are planned to be capitalized, both through works done on the country's own and through attraction of foreign capital. There is even a program of import with foreign credits to equip the sector, the minister also shows.

Although below planned levels, the results are however good in consideration of the specific conditions. Among the negative factors in the domain, the deputy minister quote the fact that the traced reserves were much below the crude extraction, the unsatisfactory rhythm of technical-material supply and the employees' poor performance. For instance, there are over 100 drilling rigs that stand still and there are over 500 crude and gas extraction wells that lack materials and spare parts.

The program of organization upon the principles of free market economy, endorsed by the Ministry of Oil for oil and gas extraction pursues the relinquishing of the methods of planning and a switch to new organizational structures in units, however maintaining the attributes of international economic cooperation, resource forecasts and computerization of the process of crude and gas production.

ADEVARUL Protests Circulation Cuts

AU0804134490 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 31 Mar 90 p 1

[Unsigned editorial note: "Press Censorship Behind Closed Doors"]

[Text] Among the "news" received from ROMPRES yesterday was a communique—item number 40; time, 1950 hours [1650 GMT]—from the Ministry of Culture (presumably). The communique actually amounted to a dictate and to economic censorship of the printed press, something without precedent in our history. The communique began nicely enough, like in the past, when one counted the beets in the registers of agricultural sections: "The unprecedented increase in the number of newspapers published in the last three months—some 900 throughout the country—... has led to a sharp printing crisis."

This is true, and it is good that it is so. However, the aforementioned communique does not tell the whole truth, only part of it. Hence, the surprise result: We find out that due to this printing "crisis"—which the government was unable to prevent, because the printer technocrats, who are the same faces as in the past, failed to inform the government in time, or informed it inexactly—newspapers like ADEVARUL must cut down their circulation by 20 percent and publish their weekly supplements once a month, with only half of the original number of pages. All this, we are told, is done to protect the press organs of the parties engaged in the election campaign. This may be true, and it is good that it is so. Nevertheless, we want to inform our readers that, at the latest meeting we had with Mr. Minister Andrei Plesu (on Wednesday, 28 March), it has been decided—at least, as far as we are concerned—that the aforementioned reduction should not affect the subscribers to ADEVARUL and SUPLIMENT DUMINICAL [SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT]. In the case of the supplement, we agreed to reduce the number of pages, but rejected the humiliating condition of its monthly publication—a decision probably made behind closed doors, after the conclusion of the respective working meeting. We would like to know who made this decision, and how it could be made in the name of democracy. We would like to know how many of the 900 newspapers published throughout the country observe the laws of this country. We also would like to know what criteria permit some parties to publish up to 15 newspapers and magazines, and what criteria allow their publication (paper and printing materials) to affect the appearance of other publications. If this democracy demands that we disappear to make room for the press of the parties, then we must be very close to the paradise of the free press.

We promise to raise other questions, too, and we expect appropriate answers and indications....

ROMPRES on Danger of 'Communist Hunt'

AU0604203790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1934 GMT 6 Apr 90

["The Communist Hunt"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 6/4/1990—In an article published in TINERETUL LIBER of 6 April Writer Constantin Sorescu warns against the danger of "the communist hunt, remindful in its atrocity of the witch hunt in the Middle Ages, of the Jew hunt in the second world war... A hunt that started in the early days of the revolution in Romania and raged wildly shortly before and after the start of the election campaign".

In his opinion, the targets of this "hunt" are "the competitors for the time being, above all professional rivals and political rivals". Men like Professor Hociota, MD (who died on 19 March from what was diagnosed as a "moral assassination" because he had treated the dictator in 1968) and Iliescu, says the writer, are a threat to competitors whether in profession or in politics, and because they cannot be beaten, the only solution is to eliminate them. Therefore it is not the nomenklatura proper that are the target, it is not the people who

profited from the communist system that are the victims, but the exceptions that managed to stand out, the dictatorship notwithstanding. When one shouts "Down with the nomenklatura" one aims against inconvenient personalities. In the author's opinion, the hunters are one and the same with the rivals who would like to run alone on the track, assured of winning the race before they start it, they are one and the same people who were yesterday's profiteers, who will be tomorrow's profiteers and will always be profiteers.

Stressing that "the consequences of this hunt are monstrous" Constantin Sorescu concludes: "It is not through violence but through inner reconstruction that not by dividing the population into hunters and hunted, but by human solidarity that society can and should be cured of the sequelae of the communist illness".

Protest Against Patriarch Teoctist's Return

AU0904194290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1701 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/4/1990—Newspaper "ROMANIA LIBERA" carries in its 8 April issue a protest to the 4 April decision of the Holy Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church to reinstate Patriarch Teoctist to office "in defiance of the no-confidence vote of the faithful that made him to step down."

The protest is signed by 136 religious, cultural and artistic personalities including Archimandrite Bartolomeu Anania, Mihai Sora, minister of instruction; Andrei Plesu, minister of culture; poetess Ana Blandiana; pianist Dan Grigore, director of Bucharest's "George Enescu" Philharmonic; Alexandru Paleologu, Romania's ambassador in Paris; writers Octavian Paler and Jozsef Balogh; art critic Dan Haulica, chief editor of the "20th Century" world literature review; Stelian Tanase, editor-in-chief of the weekly "22"; Aurel Covaci, a well-known translator.

The same newspaper carries a memorandum of Bucharest's higher school of theology adopted on 30 March by a majority of votes—264 student votes (out of a total of 274) and 10 teacher votes (out of a total 21, of which eight were against and three abstentions)—which stresses that the possible (at that date) compromise to reinstate Teoctist "far from solving the crisis of the higher clergy, makes the agony last longer and essentially contributes to discouraging all enthusiasm for renovation."

Also published are texts that preceded the 4 April decision of the Holy Synod signed by a group of priests of the Iasi protopapacy (which terms "unwelcome and very damaging the restoration of his Beatitude Teoctist at the head of the church") and by a group of believers from Pascani (who "were afraid" lest the ex-patriarch should be restored as metropolitan of Moldova and Suceava), along with protest articles by painters Sorin Dumitrescu and Horia Bernea, and writers Stelian Tanase and Marcel Petrisor.

Political Groups Warned Not To Exploit Children

AU0904195690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1714 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/4/1990—The League for Children's Rights of Romania stated to "ROMPRES" news agency that no party, no political grouping taking part in the present election campaign, nor the candidates for the presidency of the Republic have the right to mobilize children under 16 to any kind of electoral meetings or events. The candidates should not exploit the children's candour but rely on the force of the ideas in their platform-programmes.

The norms of political deontology should be observed now more than ever before, the League for Children's Rights assesses.

UNICEF Appeal To Ensure Children's Rights

AU1104190590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1723 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 11/4/1990—The Romanian Committee for UNICEF, set up on 10 April 1990, gathering personalities of the scientific, cultural, artistic and religious life, devoted to the cause of the children, to their protection and development in Romania and in the world, launched an appeal to all citizens, irrespective of their political and religious beliefs, to militate for the implementation of the principles of the convention of children's rights adopted by the UN General Assembly on 20 November 1989, signed by the Romanian Government in January 1990, to be ratified by the Romanian authorities.

Deputy Foreign Minister Meets U.S. Delegation

AU1204173590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1239 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Romanian-U.S. Talks"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/4/1990—A U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, delegation led by its chairman, Senator Dennis DeConcini held talks with Romanian Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Romulus Neagu Thursday 12 April. Information was exchanged about the democratic changes in Romania after the December 1989 revolution, about political and economic reforms, and about the conditions for free elections in Romania, the possibility to develop the Romanian-U.S. relations on a new basis.

Roman Receives Delegation

AU1204173690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1517 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/4/1990—Prime Minister Petre Roman received on April 12 in the morning the delegation of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation, headed by Senator Dennis DeConcini, now on a visit in Romania.

Answering questions of the commission members, Premier Roman spoke of the democratic changes wrought in Romania, the political and economic reforms under way, the steps taken for free and equal elections. In that frame, the members of the American delegation were told that the Free Romanian Television and the press offer equal opportunities to all parties in the election campaign, as the media are not government-controlled. Likewise, reference was made to the actions taken for the sanitation of the country's political and social life and the steps taken for holding responsible those who had participated in the bloody repression of the December 1989 revolution.

Minzatu Meets Delegates

AU1204185390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1743 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/4/1990—The delegation of the United States Congress led by Senator Dennis DeConcini met on Thursday afternoon with a delegation of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC] led by Council's Vice President Ion Minzatu.

Mr. Ion Minzatu informed the guests about the way in which that legislative body was set up and operated as well as about its attributions.

During a dialogue also attended by members of the American delegation and leaders of political groups represented to the PNUC questions were approached related to the state's subsidizing the newly created parties, the course of the election campaign and the prospects of truly free and fair elections, the principles underlying the recently passed voting law, opinions being expressed in that context on the possibilities that an authentic democracy be established in Romania.

Members of the Romanian delegation expressed different opinions as regards the parties' equal opportunities in the elections. The fact was stressed that the subsidies were far below requirements, as well as other difficulties the parties encounter and unjustly diminish their chances in elections. It was also emphasized that some of the old structures had been maintained, that the renewing and changing process was slow.

The interview was attended by Alan Green Jr, United States' ambassador to Bucharest.

Delegation Attends News Conference

AU1204204290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1946 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/4/1990—Senator Dennis DeConcini attended a news conference organized on Thursday at the end of the visit paid to Romania by the U.S Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe stating that he noted that the democratic process was continuing in Romania and that conditions were in place for free elections in which all political parties could take part.

After reviewing the contacts they had with Romanian officials and with representatives of political parties, Senator DeConcini and congressman Steny H. Hoyer stressed that the visit of the commission took place in conditions of improved relations between the United States and Romania, relations which will develop after the 20 May elections concomitantly with the deepening of the democratic process. In that context Senator DeConcini expressed his opinion that Romania could be granted the most favoured nation status after the formation of a new government in the wake of the elections, if that government worked to develop democracy, solve the questions of human and political rights, as well as for a new democratic constitution.

At the end of the news conference the colloquitors announced that the commission would sent Mrs. Judith Ingram as observer to the 20 May elections.

Regarding the cancellation of King Michael's visit to Romania the U.S. Congressmen stressed the right of the Romanian state to take such a measure in conformity with its own interest and with the interests of the sovereign himself.

The U.S. delegation left Romania in the afternoon.

Aurel Ion on Reactivating French Cooperation

AU0704155290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0900 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 6/4/1990—Back home from France where he attended the session of the joint Romanian-French Commission on the Revitalization of Bilateral Economic Cooperation, Mr. Aurel Ion, deputy minister of foreign trade, assesses as particularly productive the contacts he had in Paris. He states in an interview with "ADEVARUL" daily that the French side considered as stimulating the provisions of the recent decree-law concerning the attraction of foreign capital investment into Romania and noted with satisfaction that the process of opening itself to the world Romania has initiated provided real prospects to develop cooperation on multiple planes and under various forms. The French partners assessed that Romania boasted important availabilities for a future cooperation: various natural resources, an important agricultural and tourist potential, and, last but not least, no foreign debts. Among the areas of joint interest the dignitary mentioned power engineering, nuclear included, electronics, information science, telecommunications, car and aircraft manufacture, food industry. He referred to the negotiations with "Total" and "ELF" companies for cooperation in geological tapping of Romanian oil fields, at the expense and risk of the French firms, with which negotiations are under way on setting the conditions for cooperation in big-depth drilling. "Cogema," another French firm, stated its readiness to help developing the mining sector in Romania contributing with equipment and money to the exploitation of the mineral deposits with a low content of lead, zinc, gold, silver, copper.

Negotiations continue with "Renault" to update Dacia cars and jointly manufacture a 1000-kg useful load pick-up truck. As for scientific research and technological development a number of forms of cooperation were surveyed among which the granting of scholarships, doctor's degrees, a.o. To meet the population's demands to an ever larger extent, negotiations started with "Thomson" to jointly manufacture color TV sets, with "Tirom" for cooperation in manufacturing electrical household appliances, with other firms to improve and develop the production of the Romanian food industry.

Former Airline L.A.R. Refounded

AU1204102090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0925 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/4/1990—The second Romanian airlines company L.A.R. has been refounded.

Headquartered in Bucharest's Baneasa Airport, the L.A.R. Company will supply to its home and foreign partners the following services: ultramodern four- and eleven-passenger-taxi choppers, an air taxi for commodities' transport up to 4,000 kgs weight, home and foreign passengers or commodities charter flights of Boeing 707, BAC 1-11 (executive type), IL 18, AN 24, AN 26 (5,500 kgs commodities) airplanes.

The L.A.R. Company is open to any home and foreign initiatives to enlarge its preoccupations and become a modern company.

Egypt, Guinea To Pay Back Debts

AU1104124290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0942 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 11/4/1990—Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Ioan Emil Vasiliu, back home after a recent mission abroad, has brought good news as to the repayment by various countries of their debts to Romania.

Pursuant to talks with Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi, it was decided that the payment of a part of that state's debt to Romania be made in free currency. For the same purpose of paying off the debt, Egypt will supply medicines, detergents, colour tvs, cotton fabrics and ready-mades, footwear and Morocco items, cigarettes, foods, fruits. The possibility of tourist investments on account of the debts was also analyzed.

Negotiations ended on the payment of Guinea's debts.

That country will supply Romania in a first stage with commodities worth 13.8 million dollars in parcels consisting of 2,500 tons coffee, tropical fruits, fruit juices and ores.

Kosovo Assembly Postpones Action on Resignations

LD1204115690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2002 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Pristina, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—Following several hours of an obviously imposed debate about various issues, the Kosovo Assembly decided tonight by a majority of votes that the debate on the irrevocable resignations of the president and six members of the Provincial Executive Council should be postponed until the next session at the end of this month. [passage omitted]

Assembly Lacks Quorum

LD1204203390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1613 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Pristina, 12 April (TANJUG)—The Kosovo Assembly session today was adjourned after a discussion lasting several hours—because of a lack of quorum. It was established during the vote, first in the Chamber of Municipalities, and afterward also in the Chamber of Associated Labor, that several delegates had left the session. The breaks and the efforts perhaps to find the delegates in the Assembly lobbies proved to be in vain and the presidents of the two chambers had no option but to adjourn the session.

Soon afterward the Sociopolitical Chamber president did the same because it had turned out that there was no point discussing the Kosovo budget if the other two chambers had not done so. It has been announced that the separate chamber sessions will be resumed on 16 April. [passage omitted]

Arrest of Kosovo Youth Leaders Noted

AU1204122190 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 8 Apr 90 p 20

[A.M. report: "Three Leaders of the Kosovo Youth Parliament Arrested"]

[Text] As we were told, two leaders of the Kosovo Youth Parliament [KYP], Chairman Halil Matoshi and Presidium member Blerim Shala were arrested in Pristina yesterday morning. Blerim's brother Lulzim was also arrested. All three are journalists, the first two at ZERI I RINISE, and the third at Radio Pristina, where he acts as KYP chairman.

KYP Secretary Ylber Hysa and Hysen Gashi, member of this organization's Initiating Council, were also brought to the state security premises, and were released after a two-hour "official conversation." Hysen explained that three inspectors took him and Halil in a Fiat 850 without official license plates and drove them to the State Security offices. Hysen added that he asked him how long he had known Halil, why he had become a friend of his, and why the KYP had been studying the issue of the poisoning of Albanian schoolchildren.

We followed the traces of the report. We talked with Hajredin Bujupi and Sadri Godanci, representatives of the Pristina Security Center and the Kosovo Secretariat for Internal Affairs. The first said that the records of Station No. 92 did not mention the names of the two KYP leaders, and the second said that he had not heard of the case. We did not manage to talk with State Security staff, because they were not present in the afternoon. In the entrance hall of the State Security building, we met in the corridor the wives of the Shala brothers, Dashurie and Shpresa. They said that they had seen their husbands being taken by the inspectors, and then they related how their apartment opposite the RILINDJA building had been searched, and that the search, conducted by a official team of five, including a woman from the militia and two witnesses, had lasted two hours. The two women also told us that Halil Matoshi's house at Ajvalija had also been searched.

We asked the two militiamen on duty to call an inspector to tell us something officially about "the case of the KYP leaders." They told us abruptly that nobody in a position of responsibility was present.

Kosovo Alternative Protests

AU1204122390 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 8 Apr 90 p 11

[Unattributed report: "Protest of the Kosovo Alternative—Immediate Release of Blerim Shala and Others Arrested Demanded"]

[Text] After the recent arrest of many leaders of the Youth Parliament in Gnjilane and Podujevo, Blerim Shala, Presidium member of the Kosovo Youth Parliament, has also been arrested.

These arrests show how little guaranteed rights and freedoms are worth in Kosovo, but also indicate a fresh wave of police persecution of the Kosovo Alternative. Although a real reason for this campaign is to make impossible the activity of the Kosovo Alternative and to prevent democratic organization in Kosovo, these recent cases must also doubtless be seen in the context of the strategy of antidemocratic obstruction in Serbia and Kosovo, so that political life in this province may be conducted on the streets with rubber truncheons, tear gas, and firearms.

We protest strongly against these and all other waves of "differentiation," and demand the immediate release of Blerim Shala and those others arrested. We also draw to the attention of the highest authorities in the land the fact that we consider these and other measures as aspects of the long-familiar policy of today and in the future subjecting Kosovo to the strong hand of the police. The citizens of Kosovo, who have declared themselves for democracy and against violence, cannot and will not reconcile themselves to this, states the protest of the

Kosovo Democratic Alliance, the Kosovo Social Democratic Party, the Kosovo Peasant Party, the Association for a Yugoslav Democratic Initiative in Pristina, and the Council for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms in Pristina.

Pec Democratic Alliance Appeals for Restraint

AU1204115190 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 7 Apr 90 p 18

[N.S. report: "Appeal to the Highest State Authorities"]

[Text] Pec, 6 Apr—Today the Presidia of the Pec Branch of the Kosovo Democratic Alliance and the Pec-based Association for the Return of Albanian Emigrants From Kosovo sent an appeal and protest to the highest state authorities over the situation in Kosovo. The text states that the "mysterious poisoning" of school persons by persons as yet unidentified by the responsible state authorities, house searches, the beatings of teachers and citizens (particularly the sad case of the beating of Xhavit Rexhaj, teacher at the 11 May High School), the expulsion of the sick from hospitals, and the maltreatment of doctors by some militia members has further destabilized the political and security situation and had led to a deterioration in interethnic relations, not only in Pec Commune but throughout Kosovo.

Not only the Albanian population, but all the peoples and nationalities of Yugoslavia are now aware of the purpose of this physical and psychological harassment, which is to provoke citizens and young people to take to the streets in order to defend their identity and rights, thus providing a kind of pretext to persist in the bankrupt policies on Kosovo that have now been condemned by the entire progressive world. We therefore appeal to all citizens, and especially to young people, not to fall into the trap set by the opponents of democratic movements in Yugoslavia, and thus not to take to the streets to express their dissatisfaction at the situation in which they have now been living for a long time.

An appeal is also issued to the Kosovo Assembly delegates not to give their consent to constitutional changes until the emergency measures are lifted, and to insist that the federal authorities, particularly the SFRY Presidency, should play their constitutional role and assume responsibility for supervising and controlling the situation in Kosovo, which poses a danger not only to Yugoslavia but the whole of Europe. If anybody in Yugoslavia needs the rule of law, it is the Albanians. They do not need the police state presently in force.

Morina Denies Party, Government Conflict

LD1204225590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2204 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Pristina, April 12 (TANJUG)—The leadership of the party of communists in Yugoslavia's Kosovo Province is not in conflict with anyone, Kosovo communist leader Rahman Morina told newsmen on Thursday, denying allegations of a conflict between the provincial government and the party leadership made at yesterday's session of the Kosovo Assembly (parliament).

Morina described the accusation of the party by the government for "interfering in what is not its business" as the government's "deliberate attempt to avoid responsibility for the situation in individual spheres of life" in Kosovo.

The provincial government will have to offer arguements for this accusation, said Morina. In his view, yesterday's session of Kosovo parliament "will have wide, not only political repercussions," with responsibility resting on "delegates, the Kosovo government and leading officials of the Kosovo Assembly."

The delegates were to declare themselves on the changes in the Federal Constitution proposed by the State Presidency of Yugoslavia [word indistinct] the majority opposed the item's inclusion in the agenda.

As many as 97 per cent of the ethnic Albanian delegates voted against the proposal.

Serb and Montenegrin delegates say the outcome of the vote was influenced by Kosovo's Albanian alternative groups who demanded that the proposal be turned down.

Lately, ethnic Albanians have been flooded with media information and various statements by Albanian alternative groups in Kosovo claiming that the forthcoming constitutional changes will mean a loss of autonomy for the province.

Today's session of the Provincial Assembly was adjourned after a group of delegates walked out, thus preventing, among other things, the adoption of the province's annual budget.

Like yesterday's session, it too was taken up with questions of delegates and political soliloquys. A number of ethnic Albanian delegates claimed that cases of poisining had actually occurred among Albanian children.

Results of all medical analyses, however, had proved that there was no poisoning in Kosovo late last month but that a politically motivated farce was involved.

Meanwhile, a board for the defence and release of the president and seven members of the alternative organization of ethnic Albanians called the Youth Parliament of Kosovo, today held a press conference strongly protesting against their arrest on Saturday. The state organs have issued no official statement on the reasons for their action.

Kosovo Alternative Protests to Markovic

AU1204095390 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 7 Apr 90 p 6

[B. Haliti report: "Indifference Is Intolerable"]

[Text] At yesterday's umpteenth news conference organized by the Kosovo Democratic Alliance [KDA], Chairman Dr. Ibrahim Rugova began by rejecting all the accusations and insinuations leveled against the Kosovo Alternative by the Council for the Truth About Kosovo, and said that the KDA strongly protests against the obstacles placed in the path of KDA branches and their members in the field. The KDA raises its voice against the imprisonment of Fatmir Toplica, KDA member from Podujevo, and advises the Kosovo Socialist Alliance of Working People, the Veterans Association of Kosovo, and others to finally do something to help the Albanian people, and not only the Serbs and Montenegrins. The KDA also raises its voice against the trend toward closing down various working collectives in Kosovo and urges Serbian Assembly Vice President Momcilo Trajkovic to bear in mind the integrity of Kosovo as guaranteed by the Constitution presently in force. The KDA also calls on the Kosovo Assembly to draft and approve as soon as possible a law on the citizens' right to free political association. The KDA's letter to Federal Executive Council [FEC] President Ante Markovic was then distributed to journalists. The letter states that the "unexplained sickness" among school pupils in Albanian-language classes continues and that the cases on 5 April in two Pristina schools show that somebody's well-protected criminal activity is continuing unpunished. Apart from the general fear this has aroused, the letter states, there is an even greater anger that thousands of people, almost all Albanians, can be poisoned in a country with democratic and civilized pretensions, which is against all modern international standards of behavior.

In its letter, the KDA expresses its amazement at the attitude of the state and public order authorities, who instead of taking steps to investigate the nature of the sickness and those to blame for it, seal off institutions to which the sick are sent and prevent their admission to the hospital, threaten doctors who accept patients, place hospitals under surveillance, and so forth. The letter sent to Ante Markovic and the FEC further states that it is your duty and responsibility to prevent such things, and that to stand by indifferently is deplorable. We demand, the KDA letter concludes, that all measures within your competence should be undertaken as soon as possible to prevent such incidents, in order to avoid a further deterioration in relations, which are now at boiling point.

Blerim Shala, in the name of the Kosovo Youth Parliament, read a communique that "thanks" the state for the operation of "the rule of law," especially since 24 March. In this communique, the Youth Parliament raises its voice against the arrest and sentencing to 30 days' imprisonment of Nexhat Buzuku, chairman of the Gnjilane branch of the Youth Parliament, merely because copies of the most recent declaration of the Kosovo Youth Parliament were found on his person. The communique also protests the arrests of Fatmir Toplica and Shaip Azemi, Presidium members of the Podujevo branch of the Youth Parliament, and the beating and manhandling by the militia of Xhavit Rexhaj, chairman of the Pec branch of the Youth Parliament, merely because he tried to help sick pupils. Blerim Shala then distributed copies of the verdict of Gnjilane Communal Magistrate's Court sentencing Nexhat Buzuku so that people may see, as he put it, what a "pearl" Judge Ramush Ademi and the Gnjilane Court had produced.

At the same news conference, Bujar Bukashi distributed to journalists a letter from Kosovo doctors, which ended with the words "signatures attached," in which the doctors reject the lectures read to them about professional conduct and the attacks against them over giving treatment to those who needed it.

Journalists were also given the letter of the Initiating Council for the foundation of the Pristina Branch of the Association for the Return of Emigrant Albanians, signed by Chairman Milaim Kadriu, sent to the SFRY Presidency, the SFRY Assembly, and the FEC, demanding that the procedure should be started to annul the 1953 (!) Convention between Yugoslavia and Turkey.

Slovene Reaction to Charges Against Pucnik

AU1104195890 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] The piece of news that the authorized military bodies have filed charges against presidential candidate Joze Pucnik has provoked tempestuous reaction in Slovenia. The Slovene Communist leadership, that is, the Party of Democratic Reform, as they are called now, was the first one to react.

The following people reacted to the report: Ciril Ribicic, leader of the Slovene Communists; Milan Kucan, candidate for Slovene president; and Miran Potrc, Republican Assembly president. Several lawyers have also voiced their views, but the representatives of the united opposition, Demos, who put up Pucnik as their candidate for president of Slovenia, have so far remained silent.

Pucnik Staff Reacts

AU1204120190 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1700 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] In our earlier broadcast, we carried statements by lawyers and by Ciril Ribicic and Milan Kucan, and we announced a statement by Joze Pucnik. At that time, the Demos Presidium secretary told us that a meeting of the Presidium was convened for 1700 [1500 GMT], but the meeting was first postponed and later, as we were told by Joze Pucnik's election staff, it was closed to the public. The staff also expressed surprise at the hue and cry that had arisen in Slovenia, as they put it.

Nevertheless, because of the extraordinary interest of the public, which is very excited at this move by the Yugoslav People's Army, we will try to obtain Mr. Joze

Pucnik's view. For the time being, we only possess a statement by his election staff that nothing extraordinary is involved and that one should not be excessively excited about it because Joze Pucnik has not received any official communication and learned about the affair only through the media.

The staff also said that the poster was quite acceptable by West European standards of so-called negative election campaign posters.

Prosecutor Rejects Charges

AU1204143990 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1700 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Today Karel Rajnis, Maribor public prosecutor, rejected the charge filed by the military judicial authorities against Joze Pucnik, who in a Demos poster on the Slovene Army allegedly grossly insulted the Army when he asserted that it is not able to defend the country against external enemies, and that it kills our children, poisons the economy, and threatens our freedom. The Maribor prosecutor based his decision on his assessment that a negligible danger to society is involved. He made a statement for television, which we also present:

[Begin recording] As you know, the charge was filed from the Maribor Army Post Office, and it was originally sent to the Military Prosecutor's Office in Ljubljana, which conveyed it to us. We received it on 9 April, which is to say two days ago. The charge was dated 5 April. (?It is now the subject of) a general procedure that is under way.

Of course we had to study the case and to adopt certain decisions that are within our powers. We have decided in this specific case to use the provisions of Article (?8/2) of the SFRY Criminal Code—which is to say a case of a negligible danger to society—and to throw out the charge.

We believe that in these cases, or rather in this specific case, it is a matter of the somewhat heated election campaign; that such and similar moves occurred in the course of the election campaign on earlier occasions; that in a certain sense this is an election gesture by the candidate, to wit, Joze Pucnik, for the purpose of gaining votes; and that in the poster itself, one cannot find all the subjective elements necessary to prosecute a person who has committed such a criminal act.

We therefore believe that the public at large and, of course, we assess that the statements contained in the poster do not possess the weight that could be attributed to them in some other, normal circumstances. In addition I think that one should also consider the provisions of Article 106, Section 3 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Slovenia—which concerns the criminal act of defamation—that says, among other things, that no punishment is to be incurred by people who use insulting expressions in learned, literary, artistic, and such kinds of works, as part of serious criticism, or in the performance of official duties and political or other activities.

I think that this case also involves a political act, a statement by a candidate for president of the Republic of Slovenia Presidency, and that this buttresses our position that the specific case does not constitute a punishable act under Article 157 of the SFRY Criminal Code, (?because although) all the signs of this punishable act (?are present), as I have said, this act represents a negligible danger to society, in view of all the elements that I have cited. [end recording]

Professor Bostjan M. Zupancic notes that under our legal doctrine, the decision by the Maribor public prosecutor, who thus rejected the charge, means the case has definitely ended, because to renew criminal proceedings in a case in which the criminal charge has once been rejected is repugnant to the criminal procedural principle that forbids the same criminal case to be pursued two or more times.

Considering that the public prosecutor has decided to drop the criminal charge against Joze Pucnik because he was of the opinion that no criminal act was involved—and he may take into consideration the fact that the poster was part of the election campaign—the case is closed without any legal consequences for the persons who preferred the charges.

Commentary on Slovene Elections Results

AU1204204590 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 10 Apr 90 p 1

[Danilo Slivnik "Topic of the Day" commentary: "Slovenes Like It—Tepid"]

[Text] There has been nothing official and nothing reliable yet, but we may say that at their first free elections since the war on Sunday, the Slovenes decided in favor of a kind of a "middle way," such as textbooks on classic political theory describe as the road of "moderate changes" or even of a peculiar "political continuity." They distributed their votes (according to the data available so far) in such a way that a kind of equilibrium has been established in Slovene politics, especially in the great triangle of the Presidency-government-parliament; this equilibrium does not herald any great political upheavals, but nevertheless to a considerable extent eliminates the previous political obstacles based on the well-known Bolshevik one-party ideas.

We will not enter into the question whether the voters on 8 April acted cautiously, confusedly, or perhaps even conservatively, which would fit in with the stereotype image of the Slovenes, because this is a matter of a precise political analysis. However, we cannot bypass the fact that the elections passed in an atmosphere of an acute crisis of the system and of great social disappointments, and that the sudden "end of Marxism" also brought about many misunderstandings and protests, and much ignorance, which for instance was shown in

the large proportion of votes for "the good man of Negova" [Kramberger] as well as in the considerable extent of decisions that were neither "for" nor "against" the two big party blocs. We must not forget that quite significantly a large number of votes was won by typical center parties, such as the Green and the Liberal parties that, if we look closely, in fact do not offer anything tangible....

Thus we are in fact where some people found us a long time ago: before the making of great coalitions. We only hope that these coalitions will be sufficiently effective....

Preliminary Results of Slovene Assembly Elections

LD1204202290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1858 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Summary] Ljubljana, 12 Apr (TANJUG)—Janez Kocijancic, a candidate of the Slovenia Party of Democratic Renewal League of Communists, and Janez Jansa, a candidate of the Slovene Democratic Alliance, were among the first who, in the election for the Slovene Assembly Sociopolitical Chamber, obtained their mandates directly, immediately after the electoral papers were counted. A party that does not obtain at least 2.5 percent of the votes stands no chance of getting even one seat in this chamber. With about 910,000 voting papers counted, this appears to be the position for seven parties out of a total of 17 [which contested the election]. Demos members appeared in the Sociopolitical Chamber election separately. But as a united opposition they are in a commanding lead with almost 55 percent of the votes cast for this chamber. During their news conference late this afternoon, Marko Golobic, secretary of the Slovene Republican Electoral Commission, said that the final results and the names of the deputies in the Slovene Assembly Sociopolitical Chamber will probably be made known at the beginning of next week.

Macedonian Presidium on Serbian Party Stances

AU1104194490 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] The Central Committee [CC] Presidium of the League of Communists of Macedonia expresses its readiness to hold a democratic dialogue in order to create conditions for overcoming the crisis in the League of Communists of Yugoslavia as soon as possible.

At its session today, the Presidium also touched upon the stands of the CC Presidium of the League of Communists of Serbia. Accusations against the leadership of the League of Communists of Macedonia were assessed as untrue. It was said that the stances of the CC Presidium of the League of Communists of Serbia represent a crude attack against the legitimacy and independence of the League of Communists of Macedonia as a constituent part of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

The CC Presidium of the League of Communists of Macedonia stated that this is further proof that the causes that led to the interruption of the 14th Extraordinary Congress have not been overcome.

Alliance of Bosnia-Hercegovina Registered

LD1204220290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1505 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Summary] Mostar, 12 Apr (TANJUG)—The higher court in Mostar today registered the Social Democratic Alliance of Bosnia-Hercegovina [Socijaldemokratski Savez Bosne i Hercegovine]. This organization, with its headquarters in Mostar, will be an integral part of the Social Democratic Alliance of Yugoslavia [Socijaldemokratski Savez Jugoslavije]. In its program orientations and political profile it will be similar to social democratic parties in the West.

Markovic Notes Results of Economic Reform

LD1104121990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1410 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Zadar, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—This year's hard currency earnings from tourism in Yugoslavia may reach $2.5 or even $3 billion, Federal Executive Council [FEC] President Ante Markovic predicted in his talks with over 250 tourist workers, and representatives of the tourist business association, economic chambers, and banks. The further development of the system of open market economy and the democratization of the entire political system is facilitating the basis for a new breakthrough in the tourist economy so in a few years' time earnings in the region of $8 or even $10 billion can be expected from tourism.

The National Bank of Yugoslavia has secured $1.132 billion for preparations for this year's tourist season. Early this year, $126 million, not all of which has been spent yet, were earmarked for promotion and advertising. The convertible dinar and the slowing down of inflation are creating a favorable basis for the coming tourist season, so tourists may be surprised at possible cuts in the prices of goods and services rather than at the price rises of the past seasons. The liberalization in the import of consumer goods, which now account for 18 per cent of our total imports as opposed to 5 or 6 per cent in the past, will further faciliate tourism. The resolution of the issue of loans for agriculture and various other incentives will also contribute to a greater variety of overall tourist services.

The concrete moves and measures, President Ante Markovic maintains, are the result of coordination between the country's development and tourism, a kind of tourism that will harness all potential and resources of an open and market-oriented country.

In his several-hour-long talks with tourist economy representatives, the [FEC] president paid much attention to the results of the reform of the economic system so far, as

he noted that the country's hard currency reserves today have reached $7.86 billion and, thanks to certain reductions in repayments, now exceed $8 billion. A considerable volume of imports, especially consumer goods, enriched the market supply, which in turn stimlated a better supply by domestic manufacturers. Inflation fell to 2.6 percent in March, and its curve has the tendency to fall below the zero point, which can be expected precisely on the eve of the main tourist season. In the course of the first three months of this year, Ante Markovic went on, the same number of contracts concerning foreign investment were signed as in the entire course of 1989. The reduced level of the federal budget's share in the country's GDP is one of our positive results. At the same time, the federal budget's active role in stimlating the restructuring of the economy, manufacturing, and exports has been increased.

The reform and its results are gaining the support of important foreign partners and prominent individuals. This is not just a verbal support, but contracts were signed with the IMF, prior to the signing of agreements with the World Bank and the European Community. Furthermore, an agreement was signed with the European Free Trade Association. According to Markovic, restrictive credit and monetary policy yielded positive results and it could be loosened by the middle of this year. [passage omitted]

Mitrovic Says FEC Prepared To Defend Program

AU1104172190 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Slavisa Stojkovic report]

[Text] [Announcer] The Federal Executive Council [FEC] stands firmly behind its program of economic and social reform and if a need arises to defend it, the FEC will form a coalition with all those parties that support this course. This is what FEC Vice President Aleksandar Mitrovic said during the talks with the managers of the Djuro Djakovic collective of Slavonski Brod. Here is a report by Slavisa Stojkovic:

[Stojkovic] What will happen after 30 June? This is the essence of several questions put to Aleksandar Mitrovic. Nothing crucial, he replied. The program has been made to work in the whole of 1990 and after. The dinar exchange rate will not be changed this year, no matter what happens to the value of the German mark in the wake of the possible German monetary union, Mitrovic stated explicitly,. Price relations in the economic infrastructure will likewise not change. Deflation is expected as soon as this month and a revival in production is expected in May and June.

As regards personal incomes, Aleksandar Mitrovic pointed out that in the future, they will not be able to calculate by multiplying the number of working hours by the value of one hour. It will only be possible to pay what an enterprise has earned. If no income is earned, then nobody owes workers their wages. The taxation system will be changed and the development of private enterprises furthered, and thus the burden on socially owned economy will be released in two ways. According to present proposals, the basic turnover tax will be halved and duties on imported goods should be reduced about 9 percent.

In the coming three years, we are expecting to receive about $7 billion from abroad in the form of various credits, but we do not have prepared development programs for that, Aleksandar Mitrovic stressed. Hope is again pinned upon private owners, because 8,200 privately owned enterprises were created last year and 15,000-26,000 new firms are expected to be created this year. True, they are mostly enterprises with only a hundred employees, but that is only the first step toward a strong private economy in the future, and this should make it easier for social production to support 23 million Yugoslav citizens.

Finally, a rumor that was spreading for some time has been confirmed; upon entering Yugoslavia, all citizens of countries with nonconvertible currencies, will have to exchange $200 according to the official exchange rate.

FEC Considers Citizens Associations, Media

LD1204225190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1916 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 12 Apr (TANJUG)—Those forms of association that are deemed to be a Yugoslav association or a social or political organization whose program targets and objectives are open to the citizens throughout our country. Associations and social or political organizations can be set up by no fewer than 100 adult citizens and can be registered only by application to the Federal Secretariat of Justice.

This is the essence of the new draft law on citizens' joining associations and social and political organizations set up on the territory of the SFRY, which was approved during the FEC [Federal Executive Council] session today. During the registration process, the Federal Secretariat for Information has announced, the appropriate body can reject the legalization of an organization only if its program objectives are designed forcibly to overthrow our constitutional order, pose a threat to the integrity and independence of our country, violate the guaranteed freedoms and rights of our people and citizens, and foment national, racial, or religious hatred and intolerance. [passage omitted]

The FEC also discussed the status and financial position of federal information media: TANJUG, BORBA, Radio Jugoslavija, FILMSKE NOVOSTI, JUGOSLOVENSKI PREGLED and MEDJUNARODNA POLITIKA. It was decided to investigate legal and other possibilities of the status transformation of these media and devise appropriate modalities whereby the federation will take over the founders' rights because, it has been evaluated, an objective interest exists in doing this.

It was also agreed that measures should be taken to resolve as soon as possible the difficult financial position of TANJUG agency.

Cypriot President Arrives on Official Visit

LD0904175590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1414 GMT 9 Apr 90

["Pool" item]

[Text] Belgrade, April 9 (TANJUG)—Cypriot President Yeoryios Vasiliou arrived here Monday [9 April] on a three-day official visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of Yugoslav Presidency President Janez Drnovsek.

Vasiliou was welcomed at Belgrade airport with military honours.

The two presidents are scheduled to meet late this afternoon, while the Yugoslav president will this evening host a dinner in honour of his guest.

Official Talks Begin

LD0904205490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1829 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Apr (TANJUG)—The official talks tonight between SFRY Presidency President Janez Drnovsek and Cyrprus President Yeoryios Vasiliou focused on nonalignment in the changed world situation and on close cooperation between Yugoslavia and Cyprus within the movement that goes back to as early as the first Belgrade conference of nonaligned countries.

The three-day official visit by the Cyprus head of state to Yugoslavia, which began today, provides an opportunity for the third meeting and talks betwen Drnovsek and Vasiliou in just under one year.

The SFRY Presidency president informed our high-ranking guest what Yugoslavia, as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, is doing to ensure that the economic situation in the developing countries again becomes the focus of attention among the world public. The two sides believe that the nonaligned countries must do everything possible to focus attention again on North-South relations at a time when the developed world is to a great extent preoccupied with the events in East Europe, to which considerable financial resources will be channeled. In their opinion, the first opportunity to coordinate the approach to this problem will be the first session of the UN General Assembly on development issues, at the end of this month, because the attention of the developed world must be drawn to the fact that the difficult position of the developing countries has not changed. This will provide a good opportunity to revive this topic and also to prepare the summit of the so-called "group of 15" in the middle of this year, during which the strategy of approach toward the industrial countries should be spelled out.

Drnovsek and Vasiliou also agreed that it is indeed essential to maintain the continuity of activity of the nonaligned countries in Europe too. Europe has changed radically, and the two countries will operate in this direction in the group of nine neutral and nonaligned European countries in the preparations for the so-called Helsinki II meeting.

Speaking of the problem of Cyprus and stagnation in the talks between the two ethnic communities, Yeoryios Vasiliou said that the East European national exclusivity is felt in his country; it is preventing a solution from being sought on a democratic basis. Helsinki II within the CSCE process could be a suitable framework for cutting the Cyprus knot, Vasiliou believes.

Janez Drnovsek briefed his high-ranking guest in detail on Yugoslavia's efforts to establish close cooperation with European integrations, and also on our economic reforms that are opening the way to wider cooperation with the world. In this connection, the opportunities were identified that permit the two countries to have specific talks on cooperation in shipbuilding and banking. The fact that on 11 April, on the last day of his visit, President Vasiliou will have a meeting with Yugoslav businessmen attests to Cyprus' interest in strengthening economic cooperation with Yugoslavia.

Tomorrow the Cyprus president is a guest of the Socialist Republic of Serbia. He will visit the Zica monastery and Kragujevac and will have talks with Slobodan Milosevic, Presidency president of the Socialist Republic of Serbia.

Drnovsek Toasts Vasiliou

LD0904223290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1722 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 9 Apr (TANJUG)—SFRY Presidency President Janez Drnovsek this evening, in the Palace of the Federation, hosted a formal dinner for Cypriot President Yeoryios Vasiliou, at which the host and the guest exchanged toasts.

Greeting the guest of the highest rank, Janez Drnovsek first recalled that the visit of the Cypriot president is taking place at the time when positive changes in the world in the direction of dialogue and mutual respect are under way, but he warned that the difficulties in which the developing countries find themselves, are no less difficult than those in which they found themselves yesterday. This refers to, above all, the debt burden, the lack of North-South dialogue, and protectionism in the world trade. And until these issues are tackled, our optimism cannot be permanent, Drnovsek added.

Recalling the nonaligned attempt last autumn in Belgrade to provide answers to new challenges, Janez Drnovsek underscored the close cooperation between Yugoslavia and Cyprus on the transformation of the Nonaligned Movement so that it can remain an influential factor in the world. In connection with this,

Drnovsek expressed the gratitude to the high-ranking guest on his personal contribution to these changes.

Talking about the situation in Europe, where major changes are under way, Janez Drnovsek stressed that Yugoslavia "sees as its interest and duty to be a part of new integration processes in Europe." He expressed the conviction that all nonaligned countries will give their joint contribution in this field too.

Recalling that Yugoslavia has always believed that security in the Mediterranean is part of European security, Drnovsek stressed that our country has also always given full support to efforts to resolve the crisis in Cyprus. Yugoslavia even today harbors the hope that the negotiations under UN auspices will herald the end of the separate life of the Cypriot people and will lead to the full sovereignty, territorial integrity, and unity of Cyprus, Janez Drnovsek said in his toast. [passage omitted]

Economic Relations Stressed

LD1104060690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1858 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—Yeoryios Vasiliou, president of the Republic of Cyprus, who is on an official visit to Yugoslavia, and Serbian Socialist Republic [SR] President Slobodan Milosevic met this evening in the Serbian Presidency. They had lengthy and very open talks. Presidents Vasiliou and Milosevic exchanged views about topical issues of international relations and about the improvement in Cypriot-Serbian cooperation. Special stress was put on the realization of mutual economic relations. It was noted that, in the overall economic exchange between Cyprus and Yugoslavia, Serbia has a very prominent place. It was fully agreed that Serbia and Cyprus, within the framework of the overall Yugoslav-Cypriot relations, had very marked interests in developing cooperation, especially economic and cultural cooperation, as well, since untapped opportunities in this field still exist.

After the official talks, Serbian SR Presidency President Slobodan Milosevic hosted a formal dinner for President of the Republic of Cyprus Yeoryios Vasiliou and his aids. The dinner was attended also by SR Serbian Assembly president Zoran Sokolovic, Serbian SR Assembly Executive Council President Stanko Radmilovic, Serbian SR Presidency member Dr. Miroslav Djordjevic, and others.

Loncar Discusses Security

LD1104055490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2006 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—European security and cooperation under new conditions on our continent and the special UN General Assembly session about the problems of development, were the main topic of this evening's talks between federal Foreign Affairs Secretary Budimir Loncar and Cypriot Foreign Affaris Minister Yeoryios Iakovou.

Minister Iakovou is a member of Cypriot President Yeoryios Vasiliou's delegation, which has been on a three-day official visit to Yugoslavia since 9 April.

In the part of the talks focusing on major changes in Europe, the Cypriot foreign minister expressed concern over the lack of collective security system, which would replace the previous bloc system, especially regarding small countries. According to Iakovou, in the changed Europe, the issue of minorities has surfaced as the key in relations between some neighboring countries.

Budimir Loncar briefed his guest about the tripartite summit between Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary—attended by Yugoslavia as an observer—that discussed precisely European topics. In connection with this, Loncar voiced the view that our continent's collective security should in the future be sought in the direction of democratization of political relations in Europe. The best framework for this could be provided by the CSCE process, which in the next period will play an important role in establishing new European balance of interests.

European nonaligned countries such as Cyprus and Yugoslavia should have a say in this, although at the same time, the other nonaligned preoccupation, North-South relations, should not be forgotten. By the end of this month, the special UN General Assembly session in New York will provide the right opportunity for this. The preparatory ministerial meeting, Loncar holds, should secure consensus within the UN about the problem of development, the consolidation of this world organization's role, and how nonaligned countries could join in the new shape of the world. In connection with this, the paradox was mentioned that the principles of nonalignment today are widely affirmed in the world, but the movement itself, one could say, is losing its influence. This, however, according to Loncar, should be an additional motive to invest greater efforts in energizing the Nonaligned Movement and adapting it to new world circumstances.

This Loncar-Iakovou talks this evening reiterated Yugoslavia's support for the Cyprus problem to be solved on the basis of UN resolutions and the conclusions of the Nonaligned Movement.